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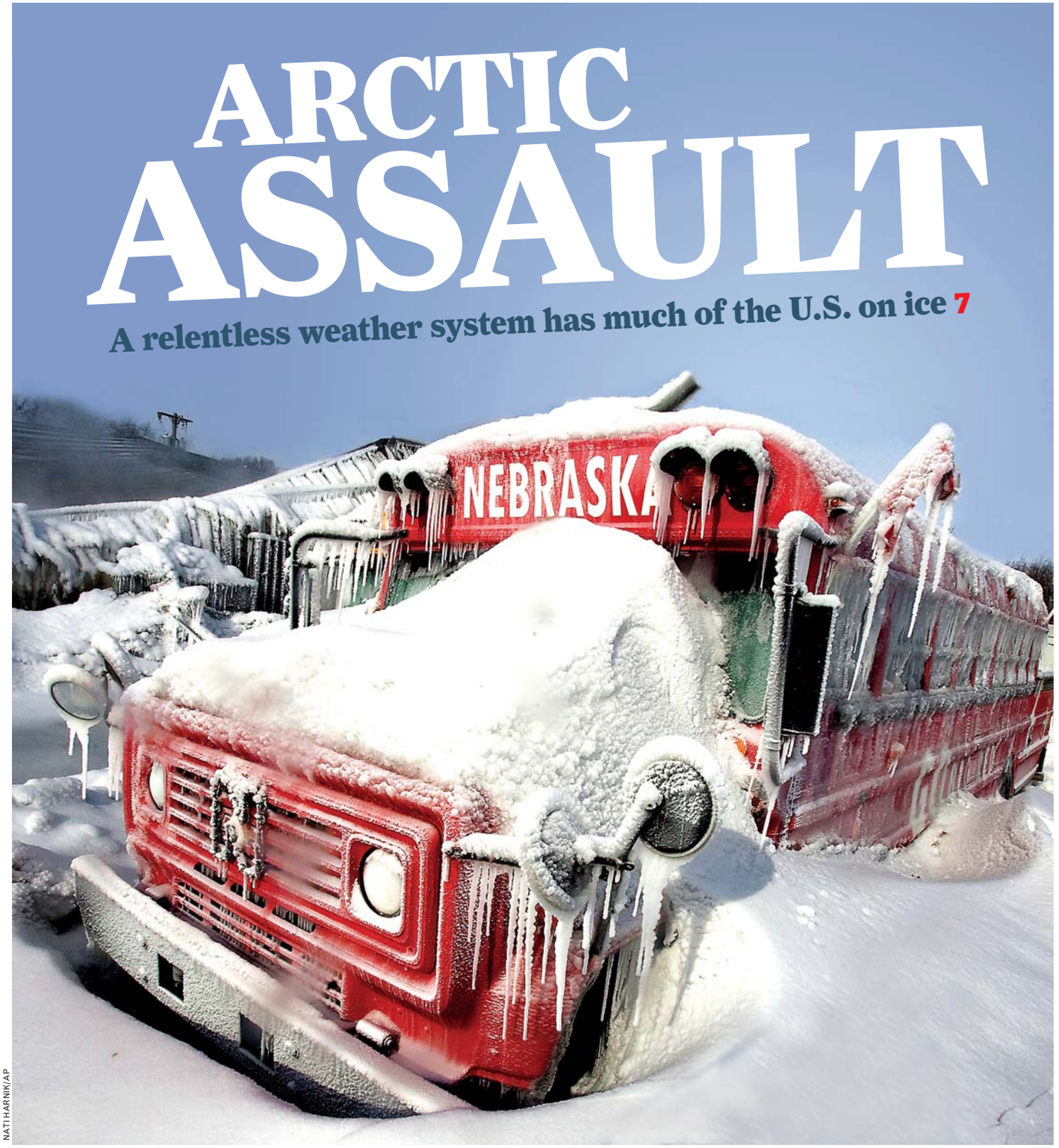
ARCTIC ASSAULT

A relentless weather system has much of the U.S. on ice 7



NATI HARNIK/AP

A bus is encrusted in ice and snow outside a bowling alley in the Omaha, Neb., suburb of Elkhorn on Thursday. Double-digit subzero temperatures persist in some parts of the U.S.

Weekend

PLAYOFF PREVIEW

Penalties haunt the Ravens as they face Tom Brady's Patriots 15

PICK YOUR POISON

Metro will ask the public how it should fix its budget shortfall 8

AFP/GETTY IMAGES

'MY RESPONSIBILITY'

Obama takes blame for security lapses and details new measures 3

am 34 | 21 pm

FOR EXTENDED FORECAST, SEE PAGE 33

eo

EYE OPENERS

We Could Almost Buy a 400-Sq.-Ft. Condo for That

A Swiss court has slapped a wealthy speeder with a chalet-sized fine — a full $290,000. Judges in St. Gallen based the record-breaking fine on the speeder's estimated wealth of over $20 million. The driver, a repeat offender, drove up to 35 miles faster than the 50 mph limit. The fine was more than twice the previous Swiss record of about $107,000. **(AP)**

'I'll Have a Cheeseburger With That Rubble, Please'

Diners at an Orlando, Fla., restaurant were shocked when a car drove through the side of the building, and even more shocked when the 92-year-old driver emerged from the totaled sedan and placed an order. The restaurant sustained $25,000 of damages, and the man was cited for careless driving. **(EXPRESS)**

Honey, I'll Do The Dumpster Diving Tonight

A Spokane, Wash., couple is collecting aluminum cans to help pay for their wedding. Andrea Parrish and Peter Geyer already have more than 18,000 cans in their living room — nearly 5 percent of their goal of 400,000. That would be about 5 tons of aluminum, worth about $3,800 when recycled. The pair hopes to meet their goal by their planned July 31 wedding. Weddingcans.com explains their plan. **(AP)**

The Big Picture

CAROLYN KASTER/AP

WHAT DO YOU DO if you're a scuptor and a butter company gives you 1,000 pounds of butter to make something for the Pennsylvania Farm Show in Harrisburg, Pa.? Apparently, you make a dopey-looking family with a cow instead of a father. Or maybe the father is just out of frame. We aren't judging. **(EXPRESS)**

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President: Buck Stops With Me

Obama signals he won't fire anyone for airline security lapse

Washington

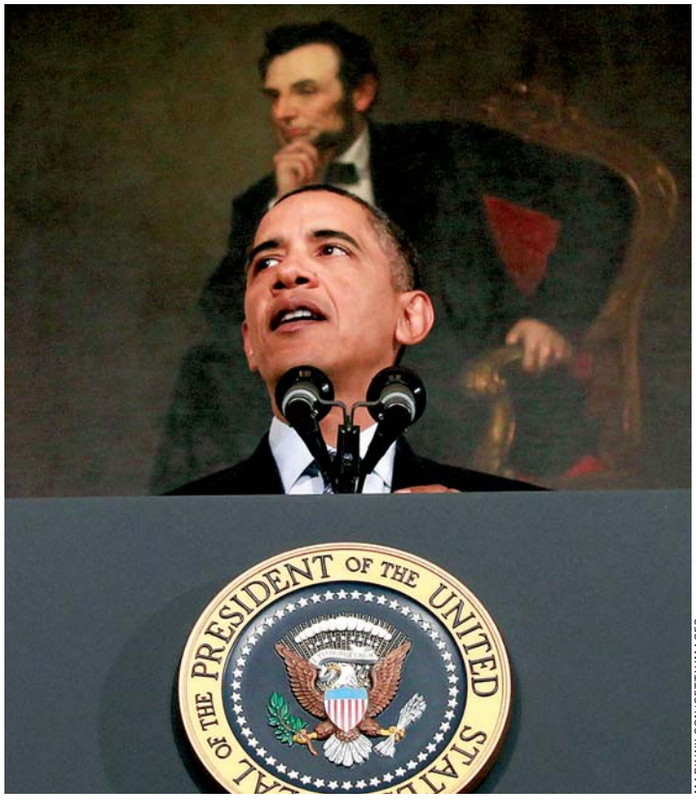
President Obama on Thursday accepted personal responsibility for what he called a "systemic failure" by government agencies to detect an attempt to bomb a U.S. airliner on Christmas Day, saying that "the buck stops with me," as he outlined additional measures to improve U.S. intelligence capabilities and enhance aviation security.

In a 12-minute speech at the White House, Obama said he has ordered the intelligence community to assign specific responsibility for investigating all leads on high-priority terrorist threats, distribute intelligence reports more rapidly and widely, do a better job of integrating available intelligence and improve criteria for adding people to a "no-fly" list.

Saying he was "less interested in passing out blame" than in fixing the problem, Obama echoed the renowned words of president Harry S. Truman, who kept a sign on his desk that read, "The Buck Stops Here." Obama declared, "Ultimately, the buck stops with me. ... When the system fails, it is my responsibility."

But he warned against succumbing "to a siege mentality" that sacrifices America's open society and liberties, which he said was a goal of the al-Qaeda terrorists.

"So long as I am president, we will never hand them that victory," he said. MICHAEL A. FLETCHER AND WILLIAM BRANIGIN (THE WASHINGTON POST)



MARK WILSON/GETTY IMAGES

President Obama announces new security measures Thursday at the White House.

The Long Goodbye

Call it the airport embrace felt around the world. A man took advantage of a guard's absence to sneak past a Newark Liberty International Airport checkpoint Sunday evening and walk arm-in-arm with a woman into a secure area, causing a terminal shutdown that delayed flights around the globe. The couple's actions emerged in a surveillance video, above, released Thursday. (AP)

JEFF ROBERSON/AP

A man is moved into an ambulance after a shooting at ABB Inc. in St. Louis.

Man Shoots 8, Then Kills Self At Ex-Employer

St. Louis

A disgruntled worker embroiled in a pension dispute with his company showed up at the plant and opened fire Thursday, killing three people and wounding five before apparently killing himself.

The shooting spree at ABB Group's plant sent frightened coworkers scrambling into closets and to the snow-covered roof for safety.

Fire officials identified the shooter as 51-year-old Timothy Hendron of Webster Groves, a St. Louis suburb. Police said a man believed to be the gunman was found dead inside the plant from an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound. The motive for the shooting wasn't known, investigators said. (AP)

POLITICS

The burgeoning "tea party" movement has apparently found an enthusiastic supporter in former vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin, who has agreed to deliver the headline address at the first-ever Tea Party Convention next month in Nashville, Tenn. A recent Wall Street Journal/NBC survey found a generic conservative "Tea Party" is more popular with voters than either the Democratic or Republican party. (CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR)

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Nation

Smog Crackdown Likely

EPA proposes tough limits that will have impact around U.S.

Washington

The Environmental Protection Agency on Thursday proposed limiting the allowable amount of pollution-forming ozone in the air from 75 to between 60 and 70 parts per billion for any eight-hour period, tightening rules the Bush administration had set for the nation's most widespread air pollutant.

The smog proposal would help determine the quality of the air Americans will breathe for at least a decade. Under the Clean Air Act, the federal government must reexamine every five years whether its ozone standards are adequate, but it traditionally takes more than 10 years to enact new rules.

The final target that the Obama administration adopts will have huge implications for the regulations state and local officials will have to set to meet the new requirements. Power plants and motor vehicles are significant emitters of pollutants such as nitrogen oxides and other chemical compounds, which form ozone when exposed to sunlight, but sources as small as gas lawnmowers could face restrictions as well.

Clean Air Watch President Frank O'Donnell called ozone "one of the most dangerous" pollutants in the United States. "Smog can, and does, kill. This action will literally save lives," he said. JULIET EILPERIN (THE WASHINGTON POST)

AP/FILE

Smog hovers over Los Angeles in April of 2009. The EPA wants tougher air rules.

Backstory

Ozone standards have been the center of a political and legal battle since 2008, when the EPA set a looser limit than what its scientific advisers had suggested and President Bush himself intervened to scale back the agency's proposal. The new plan mirrors what EPA's Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee recommended in 2007. (TWP)

Ex-Blackwater Guards Indicted

Raleigh, N.C.

Two former Blackwater contractors were arrested Thursday on murder charges in the shootings of two Afghans after a traffic accident last year, according to an indictment obtained by The Associated Press.

The indictment charges Justin Cannon, 27, and Chris Drotleff, 29, with second-degree murder, attempted murder and weapons charges. FBI agents arrested both of them without incident, said Peter Carr, a spokesman with the U.S. attorney's office in Virginia's eastern district.

Both men have said in recent interviews with The Associated Press that they were justified in opening fire on a car that caused an accident in front of their vehicle, then turned and sped toward them. The indictment says the shooting at a Kabul intersection killed two people. At least one other person was injured (AP)

Hearsay

"I've had enough of it. If you don't want me in the job, fire me. But until then, shut up."

— **MICHAEL STEELE,** RNC CHAIRMAN, LASHING OUT AT CRITICS THURSDAY AFTER HIS LEADERSHIP WAS QUESTIONED.

HEALTH

A new study says food at popular chain restaurants and in the frozen food aisles can be more fattening than advertised. A study of meals from 10 restaurant chains, including Ruby Tuesday and Wendy's, found calorie counts averaging 18 percent more than the values listed by the restaurants. Diet meals made by Lean Cuisine, Weight Watchers, Healthy Choice and others averaged 8 percent higher than the numbers on the label. (AP)

Europe Split on Body Scanners

EU mulls ordering nations to upgrade their airport security

Brussels

European nations were sharply divided Thursday over the need to install full-body scanners at European airports, with some EU members playing down the need for beefed-up security measures.

But the EU indicated Thursday it may force nations to comply while at the same time addressing concerns over privacy, data protection and health issues arising from their use.

Italy on Thursday joined the United States, Britain and the Netherlands as nations who have announced plans to install the scanners following a Nigerian man's reported attempt to blow up a U.S. airliner flying from Amsterdam to Detroit on Christmas Day.

Washington is seeking enhanced security measures on all trans-Atlantic flights heading for the United States. That's a huge task, however, since European airports carry thousands of passengers on over 800 flights a day across the lucrative North Atlantic route.

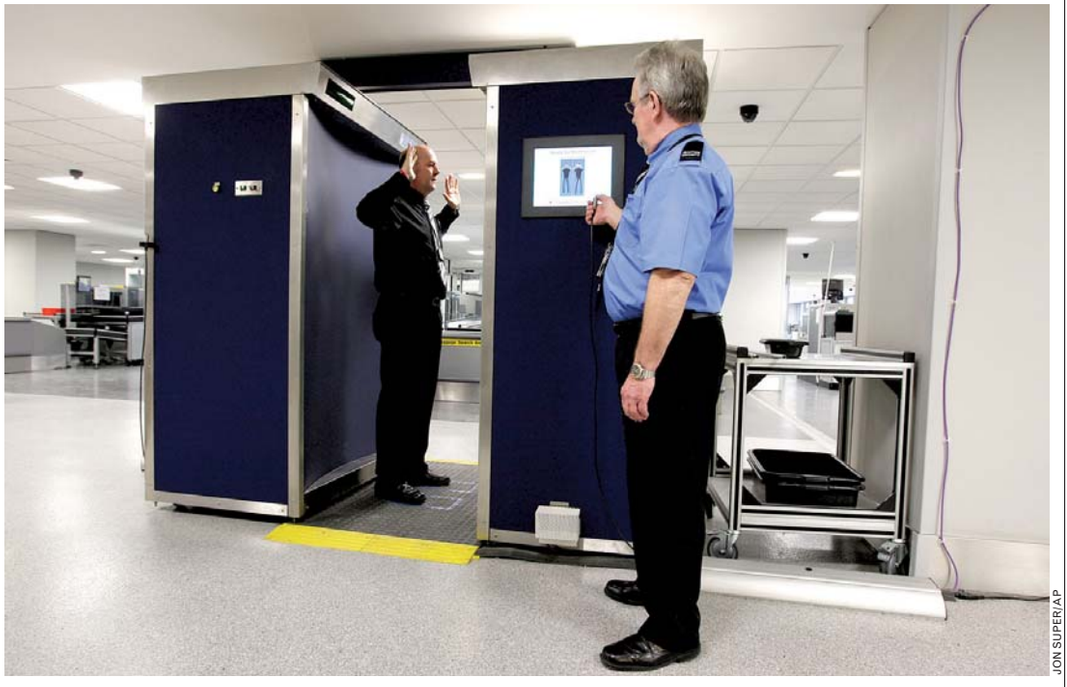
But as EU aviation security experts met Thursday on the subject of scanners, Belgium's secretary of state for transport, Etienne Schouppe, described such enhanced measures as "excessive," saying security requirements at European airports are already "strict enough." Spain, too, has expressed skepticism about the need for body scanners, and the German and French governments remain uncommitted.

Until now, the EU has allowed member states to decide on whether to use body scanners at airport checkpoints. In 2008, the EU suspended work regulating the use of body scanners after the European Parliament demanded a more in-depth study of their impact on health and privacy.

Italian Interior Minister Roberto Maroni said Thursday that the country will order 10 scanners.

"Security comes first before everything else for those who fly," Maroni said at a news conference.

SLOBODAN LEKIC (AP)



JON SUPER/AP

Airport officials in Manchester, England, test out a full-body scanner Wednesday amid a U.S.-backed push for tighter security.

> **"I have a feeling [the Americans] are exaggerating. I don't know what ... they were using previously, but here ... security controls were strict enough."**
>
> — **ETIENNE SCHOUPPE,** BELGIUM'S TRANSPORT SECRETARY, ON ADDING SCANNERS.

Meanwhile...

The Nigerian accused of trying to blow up a U.S. passenger plane on Christmas met in Yemen's remote mountains with regional al-Qaeda leaders, possibly including a radical American cleric who was also in contact with the alleged Fort Hood shooter, Yemen's deputy prime minister said Thursday. However, Rashad al-Alimi insisted that 23-year-old Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab was recruited by al-Qaeda in Britain, before he arrived in Yemen last summer, and that he obtained the explosives used in the failed airliner attack after he left Yemen. (AP)

Conservation Group Hunts for Japanese Whalers by Helicopter

Sydney

Japanese whalers and conservationists squared off Thursday for more hostilities in the Antarctic, a day after the hunters crushed one of the activists' boats in a clash each side blamed on the other but all agreed endangered lives.

Sea Shepherd Conservation Society searched Antarctic waters by helicopter for a Japanese whaling ship Thursday, renewing its attempts to harass the whalers into giving up their hunt, the group's founder Paul Watson said.

The escalating Antarctic confrontations were broadly condemned, but no plan was immediately hatched to prevent future confrontations. Legal uncertainties about jurisdiction and the remoteness of the area make policing the waters extremely difficult.

Japan kills about 1,200 whales a year in Antarctica under what it says is a scientific program allowed by the International Whaling Commission despite a broader moratorium on killing the mammals. Critics say the program is a front for illegal commercial whaling, and Sea Shepherd sends ships to Antarctica each season to try to stop the hunt — as portrayed on the Animal Planet TV series "Whale Wars." (AP)

In Brief

AP

Officials inspect a Malaysian church after it was set on fire on Thursday.

KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

Church Fire Spotlights Furor Over Use of 'Allah'

Unidentified attackers set fire to a church in Malaysia early Friday amid a growing conflict in the country over the use of the word "Allah" by non-Muslims, officials said. Only the first floor office of the Protestant Metro Tabernacle Church was destroyed in the blaze that started a little after midnight Thursday, said church spokesman Kevin Ang. The worship areas on two upper floors were undamaged, and there were no injuries. (AP)

ISTANBUL

CIA Bomber's Wife Says She's Proud of Husband

The Jordanian doctor-turned-suicide bomber who killed seven CIA employees at a base in Afghanistan is regarded by his family as a martyr in Islam's holy war against the United States, his wife said Thursday. Defne Bayrak, the Turkish wife of bomber Humam Khalil Abu-Mulal al-Balawi, lauded her husband's Dec. 30 attack. "I am proud of him; my husband has carried out a great operation," Bayrak told the Dogan news agency. (AP)

LONDON

Former Lottery Winner Found Dead at Age 29

Police were investigating Thursday the death of a man who became a millionaire after winning Britain's National Lottery when he was 17. Police in Dumfries and Galloway, Scotland, said they were looking into the death of 29-year-old Stuart Donnelly, who was found dead in his home in the small southwestern Scottish town of Castle Douglas early Wednesday. (AP)

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World

Iraq Bombings Kill at Least Eight

Baghdad

Five explosions that mostly targeted law enforcement officials ripped through a city in Iraq's Anbar province Thursday morning, killing at least eight people and injuring at least 10 others.

Security forces imposed a curfew before dawn in the small city of Hit, about 120 miles west of Baghdad, as they searched for two potential suicide bombers they believed to be in the city, a police spokesman said.

The homemade bombs that struck the homes of Hit's deputy police chief, two counter-terrorism police officials and a lawyer came just one week after twin explosions killed at least 24 people in Anbar and ripped off the hand of provincial Gov. Kassim Mohammed Fahdawi. They also follow a series of some 40 assassinations in the province that primarily have targeted politicians, police officers, tribal chiefs and religious figures.

The explosions underscore fears that, as U.S. troops begin to withdraw from Iraq, the province's fragile security is deteriorating.

After last week's bombings, police chief Tariq al-Aasal — widely viewed as incompetent — was forced out and replaced with a temporary commander from the Iraqi Army in Baghdad. The appointment of Bahaa al-Azzawi was made directly by Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, angering tribal chiefs who saw the move as an affront to their power.

LEILA FADEL AND UTHMAN AL-MOKHTAR (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Backstory

Anbar was considered an American model of success after Sunni tribal leaders and U.S. forces struck a deal to rein in insurgents in a place once known as a militant heartland and a graveyard for Americans. The number of U.S. military enclaves in the province has shrunk from 35 to five, and by August only three outposts will remain. U.S. forces are largely confined to their base in Ramadi and no longer regularly accompany Iraqi forces on operations. (TWP)

Christmas in January

SERGEI GRITS.AP

TROOPS KISS an Orthodox cross at a service in Minsk, Belarus, Thursday. Christmas falls on Jan. 7 for Orthodox believers who use the Julian calendar.

Under the Weather

A rare outbreak of Arctic air unleashes one of the harshest winters in memory

Weather

Beijing had its coldest morning in almost 40 years and its biggest snowfall since 1951. Britain is suffering through its longest cold snap since 1981. And freezing weather is gripping the Deep South, including Florida's orange groves and beaches.

Whatever happened to global warming?

Such weather doesn't seem to fit with warnings from scientists that the Earth is warming because of greenhouse gases. But experts say the cold snap doesn't disprove global warming at all — it's just a blip in the long-term heating trend.

So what is going on?

"We basically have seen just a big outbreak of Arctic air," according Gerald Meehl, a senior scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colo. "The Arctic air has really turned itself loose on us."

In the atmosphere, large rivers of air travel roughly west to east around the globe between the Arctic and the tropics. This airflow acts like a fence to keep Arctic air confined.

But recently, this airflow has become bent into a pronounced zigzag pattern, meandering north and south. If you live in a place where it brings air up from the south, you get warm weather. But in the eastern United States, like some other unlucky parts of the globe, Arctic air is swooping down.

The weather hasn't let up all week. Five-straight days of double-digit subzero low temperatures, including negative-19, were recorded by the National Weather Service office in Chanhassen, Minn., a Twin Cities suburb. In Bowbells, in northwestern North Dakota, the wind chill hit 52-below zero Thursday morning.

"The air freezes your nostrils, your eyes water and your chest burns from breathing — and that's just going from the house to your vehicle," said Jane Tetrault, the Burke County deputy auditor.

At least 15 deaths this year have been blamed on the cold and icy, snow-covered roads. An 88-year-old woman died of hypothermia in her unheated Chicago home, an Alzheimer's sufferer died after wandering into his yard in Nashville, Tenn., and a homeless man was found dead in a tent in South Carolina, authorities said. Kansas City police said a man involved in a multi-car pileup Wednesday died after jumping a barrier wall in the dark, apparently to avoid sliding cars, and falling about 80 feet.

> **"The air freezes your nostrils, your eyes water and your chest burns from breathing — and that's just going from the house to your vehicle."**
>
> — **JANE TETRAULT,** OF BURKE COUNTY, N.D., ON THE MINUS-52 WIND CHILL THERE.

The Climate Prediction Center of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration isn't sure why this cold streak is so strong, but it says the pattern should begin to weaken in a week or two.

That will be welcome news in the South, where farmers have been trying to salvage millions of dollars' worth of crops.

On Miami Beach, tourists bundled up in woolen winter coats and hooded sweatshirts Wednesday when they expected to leave the winter clothes in a suitcase. "Last year we were swimming every day," said Olivia Ruedinger of Hamburg, Germany. "I miss that." (AP)

NATI HARNIK/AP

Firefighters and their engine are covered with ice as they battle a fire at a bowling alley in the Elkhorn, Neb., on Thursday.

JOHN RAOUX/AP

The frigid conditions are wreaking havoc on Florida crops such as oranges.

Chilly conditions

10"
The amount of snow expected on Thursday in Des Moines, which may deplete its entire 2010 plowing budget this week.

500
The number of flights grounded at Chicago's airports as conditions worsened on Thursday.

3°F
The temperature in Beijing on Wednesday; it was the coldest morning in almost 40 years.

4,000
The number of people without electricity in southern England after Wednesday's massive snow storm.

Frozen Iguanas?!

Freeze warnings covered nearly all of Florida with temperatures expected to drop into the 20s. Iguanas were seen falling out of trees. Experts say the cold-blooded reptiles become immobilized and lose their grip when the temperature falls into the 40s or below.

Local

Metro: Fare Hikes or Service Cuts

Transit agency to give public more options in closing budget gap

Washington

Metro's board of directors voted unexpectedly Thursday to offer the public more options for closing the system's $40 million budget gap, including an across-the-board fare increase of up to 10 cents that could offset the need for service cuts.

If approved, a full 10-cent fare increase would bring in roughly $4 million of additional revenue by the end of this fiscal year in July — the same amount as would be saved through the proposed service cuts, Metro officials said. The sum, however, does not include some revenue that would be lost because of the higher fares.

JAHI CHIKWENDIU/TWP

Riders board a Red Line train at Metro Center Thursday. The transit agency delayed a decision on implementing service cuts to close a $40 million budget shortfall.

Heated debate broke out among board members over whether to allow consideration of a fare hike as high as 20 cents — a position favored by members from Maryland and Virginia — and the 10-cent option backed by members from the District. Board Chairman Jim Graham of D.C. prevailed by vetoing the 20-cent proposal.

The board called for public comment and hearings to be held within the next two weeks on the fare increase as well as several other new options for addressing the pressing budget shortfall. A Jan. 28 board meeting will be held to decide on the remedies.

The board had been expected to authorize rail and bus service cutbacks that would increase crowding and wait times between trains and buses.

The planned decreases in rail and bus service would have started at the end of March, Metro officials said. ANN SCOTT TYSON (THE WASHINGTON POST)

D.C.'s Black Population Continues To Decrease

Washington

The District is still losing African American residents, according to new census estimates released Thursday, while the number of whites and every other census-tracked minority has risen.

The city remains a majority African American city, though the numbers and percentage slipped in every year between 2000 and 2008. About 54 percent of the city is African American and 40 percent is white, the census figures show. At the beginning of the decade, the city was 61 percent black and 34 percent white.

In raw numbers, the District lost about 27,000 black residents and gained about 40,000 whites. Asians now are 4 percent of the population, up from 3 percent in 2000, while Hispanics have risen from about 8 percent to 9 percent. CAROL A. MORELLO (THE WASHINGTON POST)

The Lotteries

Thursday, Jan. 7

Maryland

Mid-day Pick 3	0-7-9
Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)	9-4-5
Mid-day Pick 4	6-7-5-2
Evening Pick 4 (Wed.)	6-9-5-2
Match 5 (Wed.)	2-13-28-29-39 (25)
Multi-Match (Wed.)	13-21-24-26-27-36

District

Mid-day Lucky Numbers	8-6-5
Evening Lucky Numbers (Wed.)	4-6-3
Mid-day DC 4	8-0-1-3
Evening DC 4 (Wed.)	6-9-1-3
Mid-day D.C. Five	4-4-2-9-4
Evening D.C. Five (Wed.)	7-7-4-3-6
Daily 6 (Wed.)	2-5-14-17-25-37 (3)
Hot Lotto (Wed.)	1-16-26-28-34 (11)

Virginia

Mid-day Pick 3	7-0-1
Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)	9-8-3
Mid-day Pick 4	8-8-7-6
Evening Pick 4 (Wed.)	9-2-2-8
Mid-day Cash 5	2-4-20-26-34
Evening Cash 5 (Wed.)	6-14-19-29-34
Win For Life (Wed.)	4-13-15-16-17-29 (34)

Multi-State Games

Powerball	20-27-29-56-58 (31)
Power Play	2X

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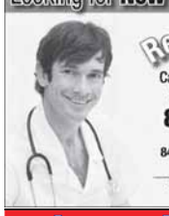

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sports

Don't count on Gilbert Arenas ever playing with the Wizards again | 17

TV Lineup

DARRON CUMMINGS/AP

Dwight Howard and the Orlando Magic face the reeling Wizards Friday night.

Friday

7 P.M. The Wizards will obviously be without Gilbert Arenas when facing Dwight Howard and the Orlando Magic. CSN

Saturday

2 P.M. Duke's men's basketball team visits Georgia Tech in an ACC battle. ESPN

4 P.M. George Mason's men's basketball team plays UNC-Wilmington. MASN

4:30 P.M. Mark Sanchez makes his playoff debut in leading the New York Jets against the Cincinnati Bengals in a playoff game. NBC

7 P.M. Alex Ovechkin and the Caps face off against the Atlanta Thrashers. CSN

8 P.M. The Philadelphia Eagles aim to add to the Dallas Cowboys' postseason woes. NBC

Sunday

1 P.M. The Wizards host the New Orleans Hornets. CSN

1 P.M. The Baltimore Ravens will try to avenge an early-season loss to the Patriots in a playoff game. CBS

4:40 P.M. Kurt Warner and the Arizona Cardinals host the Green Bay Packers in the weekend's final playoff game.

5:30 P.M. Maryland's men's basketball team tips off its ACC schedule against Florida State. CSN

A Smaller Strike Zone

Burned by penalties, Ravens wonder just where to hit Brady

Pro Football

Patriots quarterback Tom Brady found it amusing this week when asked whether he gets preferential treatment from NFL referees.

"I'm begging for preferential treatment if they'll give it to me. I just don't think they'll give it to me all the time," the NFL's comeback player of the year replied with a chuckle. "I'm trying to butter up to those officials before the game and during the game so we do get a call every once in a while. If it helps our team win, I'm all for it."

Brady's exploits in the pocket were no laughing matter to the Ravens on Oct. 4, with memories of that game still fresh in Baltimore's minds entering Sunday's playoff game.

Two roughing-the-passer calls helped New England pull out a 27-21 victory. The penalties, against Baltimore's Haloti Ngata and Terrell Suggs, extended a pair of drives that ended in touchdowns.

The calls left the Ravens furious, especially after a stumbling Suggs appeared to merely brush against Brady's right knee. Brady did a little tap-dance, then shot a demanding glance toward the referee while pointing at the prone Suggs. The official nodded as he threw the yellow flag.

"It's embarrassing to let a defensive player play his heart out and then you call something like that?" Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis said after the game.

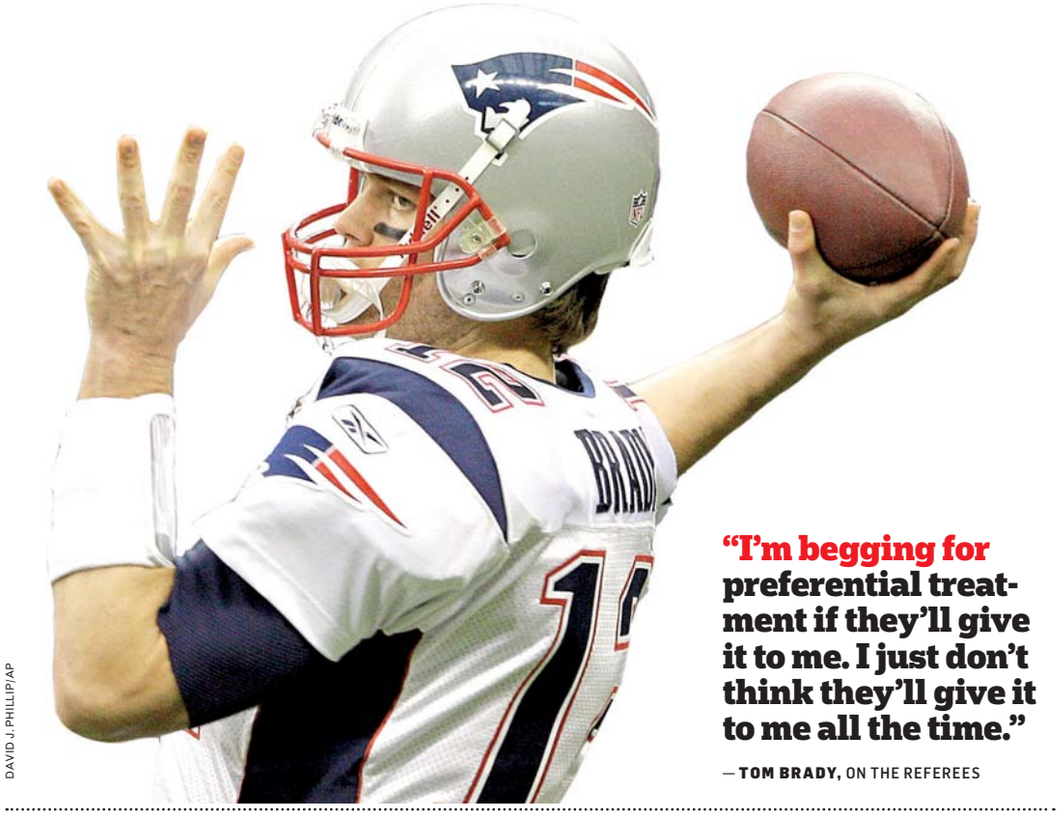
Brady missed most of the 2008 season with a knee injury that came from a low blow in a game against Kansas City. The play — which did not draw a flag — brought about a new penalty designed to protect a quarterback's knees, an infraction unofficially named after the man who inspired the legislation.

"The rule came from him. It's the Tom Brady rule," Ravens linebacker Antwan Barnes said.

Hit a quarterback high, it's a penalty. Smack him low, it's a penalty. Which leaves the Ravens with two options Sunday.

"Just hit him above the knees and below the neck," Barnes said.

DAVID GINSBURG (AP)



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

"I'm begging for preferential treatment if they'll give it to me. I just don't think they'll give it to me all the time."

— **TOM BRADY,** ON THE REFEREES

V

1 PM | CBS Sunday

INSTANT REPLAY

Aside from the Ravens-Patriots game, the other three NFL playoff games this weekend are rematches from last week's regular season games.

JETS AT BENGALS **Previously:** The Jets won 37-0. • **Storyline:** While wide receiver Chad Ochocinco's injured knee is a concern, Cincinnati's major issue may be its mental health. Since Chris Henry's death, the Bengals have won just one of three games. Jets rookie QB Mark Sanchez, right, will be making his playoff debut. **(4:30 P.M., SAT., NBC)**

EAGLES AT COWBOYS **Previously:** The Cowboys won 24-0. • **Storyline:** Dallas coach Wade Phillips' job may be on the line as the Cowboys look for their first postseason victory since 1996. The Eagles' defense will aim for a better effort against running backs Marion Barber and Felix Jones, who each gained 91 yards last Sunday. **(8 P.M., SAT., NBC)**

PACKERS AT CARDINALS **Previously:** The Packers won 33-7. • **Storyline:** Arizona begins its quest to return to the Super Bowl after treating last week's game like it was in the preseason. Turnovers may be key, as the Pack had the NFL's best takeaway-to-turnover ratio (plus-24). **(4:40 P.M., SUN., FOX)**

sports

Terps Work Hard to Stay Sharp

UMd. eager for ACC opener after six days off between games

College Basketball

The Maryland Terrapins practiced Tuesday, but Gary Williams wanted a game.

This is no time for a bye, the 21-year coach said. Not when your most experienced team in years has struggled for two months to play with any consistency. Not now, when the team is on the verge of opening conference play in one of the nation's toughest leagues.

"We've been up and down so far this year," Williams said. "There's plenty to do [in practice]. That's not the problem. It's just that you'd like to see a game in here around Wednesday rather than having six days off before you play."

The Terrapins (9-4) bounced back from a disappointing loss to William & Mary last week with a convincing win at North Carolina-Greensboro on Sunday. They dominated the boards, passed unselfishly and shot accurately. They scored 54 points in the first half alone.

But it'll be a challenge to keep the momentum intact until Florida State visits for the ACC opener on Sunday evening.

ROBERT FRANKLIN/AP

Greivis Vasquez and the Terps will have had 6 days off, before facing Florida State in its ACC opener Sunday. The Seminoles are 1-0 in conference already this season.

> **"When he's passing the ball, he's really an exceptional player. That's contagious."**
>
> — **GARY WILLIAMS**, TERPS HEAD COACH, ON GUARD GREIVIS VASQUEZ

The Seminoles are 13-2, losing only to Florida and Ohio State, and they already have an ACC victory after beating then-No. 15 Wake Forest last month.

Williams expected to spend the early part of the week focusing on defense and rebounding, general midseason upkeep. Later in the week, the attention would turn to Florida State.

The responsibility for keeping the team focused throughout largely falls on the team's veterans. But of the three seniors in the Terrapins' starting lineup, only two have been consistent contributors this season.

"Grevis Vasquez got off to a slow start but he's playing to his potential now. The last three or four games he's been terrific," Williams said. "Eric Hayes has been in and out. Landon Milbourne's really been ... a very good player for us."

Ultimately, Williams said, it's Vasquez who dictates the team's identity. The guard from Venezuela has scored at least 20 points in each of the last five games, after failing to tally double digits in the season's first four games.

When Vasquez is scoring, the Terrapins can win. When he's scoring and passing, Williams said, the Terrapins can be at their best.

"When he's passing the ball, he's really an exceptional player," the coach said. "That's contagious. ... When you get that into your team, at least for us, that's when we become a good team — when we have guys that try to duplicate that. And then all of a sudden when you have a good passing team, you usually have a good scoring team."

DEREK TURNER

College Tipoffs

PAUL BEATY/AP

GEORGETOWN (12) VS UCONN (13)

Storyline: Coming off their first Big East loss to a plucky Marquette team, **Chris Wright** and the Hoyas look to rebound against the Huskies, who've won two and a row in Big East play, following a stunning road loss to Cincinnati. **(NOON, SATURDAY, ESPN)**

KANSAS (1) AT TENNESSEE (15)

Storyline: Sheron Collins and the Jayhawks survived a scare from Cornell Wednesday night, and will travel to Knoxville to take on the Volunteers who are somewhat in disarray after four players were suspended indefinitely for getting arrested on gun and drug charges. **(4:30 P.M., SUNDAY, CBS)**

NORTH CAROLINA (9) VS VA. TECH

Storyline: The Tar Heels were upset by College of Charleston in OT Monday, and Deon Thompson looks to lead UNC to an ACC win against a Hokies team that's fresh off an overtime game of their own, a 103-94 win over Seton Hall. **(7:45 P.M., SUNDAY, CSN)**

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Swengali

Arenas Won't Be Back With the Wiz

Gilbert Arenas has played his last game with the Washington Wizards.

There's been no official announcement — not since his indefinite suspension from the NBA Wednesday — but he won't be back whenever commissioner David Stern lets him on the court.

The Pollin family is angry that Arenas has made a joke out of a subject (firearms) so dear to the late Abe Pollin's heart that he changed the team's name from Bullets to Wizards. Team President Ernie Grunfeld is furious that Arenas has become such a liability since signing a six-year, $111 million contract in 2008. And fans are just fed up with the point guard who can't seem to take anything seriously.

It's a sad end to what had been a love affair between D.C. sports fans and the quirkiest of superstar athletes.

It's a sad end to what had been a love affair between D.C. sports fans and the quirkiest of superstar athletes. Four playoff appearances and a young star seemed too good to be true. And it was. You can thank the "Curse of Les Boulez" for that, as the omnipresent dark cloud once again unleashed a storm on a $100 million athlete.

Remember how loved Juwan Howard was? Probably not, because his enormous contract sapped all the good will he'd established. Indeed, there's no one cheering Arenas any more either.

Whether the team will be able to void Arenas' contract or is forced to trade him, the end game has already been played. It was fun while it lasted — up until it wasn't.

@ To reach Matt Swenson, e-mail matt.swenson@readexpress.com

Mixed Reactions to Arenas Case

As national critics pound away, locals take a softer stance

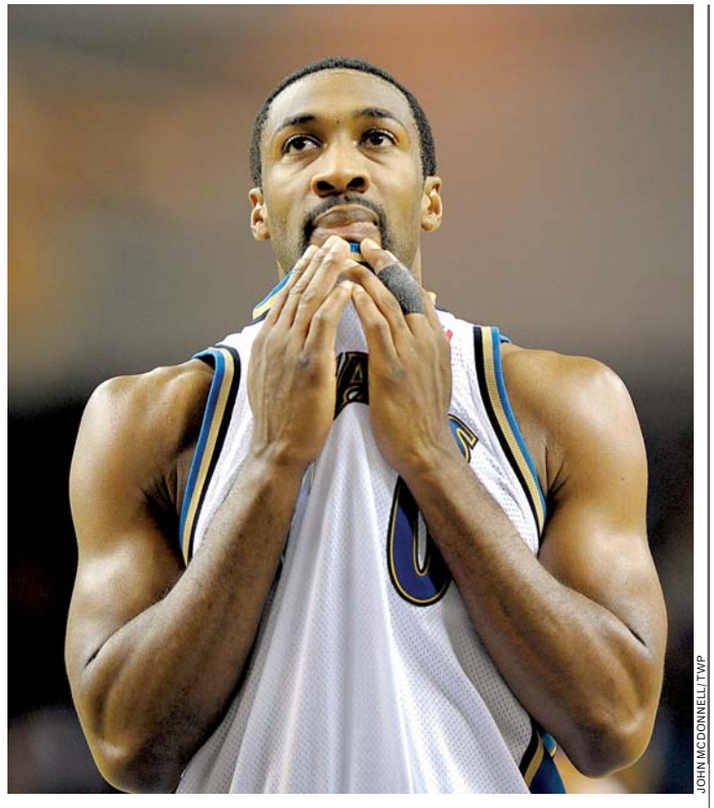
The Wizards

In Washington, the story of Gilbert Arenas and his guns is yet another in a long line of sports embarrassments in a town that has a tough time finding winners. But in the rest of the country, the news that the Washington Wizards' star guard displayed his guns in the team locker room — and the utter lack of seriousness with which Arenas and his teammates handled the incident in the ensuing days — is being perceived as a morality play about thuggish behavior in the NBA, race and the age-old debate over athletes' responsibility to young fans.

The Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence blasted Arenas as "far from a role model." In a column at Foxsports.com, Stephen A. Smith blamed the "culture of tattoos" and the "foolish acts" of athletes such as Arenas, Plaxico Burress and Ron Artest for "influencing black America's youth." In the New York Daily News, Rev. Al Sharpton asked why black leaders haven't spoken out about the "culture of violence being perpetuated in professional sports."

But closer to home, where Arenas' oddball approach is better known, there was no such leap to assign deeper meaning to his decision to flaunt the rules and then mock those who took his actions seriously. (Arenas pretended to shoot his teammates with his hands during a pregame huddle Tuesday, sparking his indefinite suspension.)

Mayor Adrian Fenty avoided any harsh criticism of Arenas. "I think a lot of what people will think about this incident is, is he truly remorseful? Does he want to change?" Fenty said on WRC-TV Thursday. "I think that's always one of the biggest tests and standards for whether someone should be allowed to do something again." J. FREEDOM DU LAC (THE WASHINGTON POST)


JOHN MCDONNELL/TWP

Gilbert Arenas was suspended indefinitely and without pay on Wednesday.

Fan Feedback

The Washington Post sought out reaction near Verizon Center after Arenas was suspended by the NBA.

"I mean. How stupid is this guy? Pay somebody to store your guns, man. You can afford it. And don't play around with them."

— **CHRIS JOHNSON,** NOTING ARENAS' $111 MILLION CONTRACT.

"I don't feel he should be punished for what he did. Somebody should say: You made a bad choice. In the future, try to make better choices."

— **OSCAR JOHNSON,** OFFERS A SYMPATHIC VIEW OF THE WASHINGTON WIZARDS' ALL-STAR POINT GUARD.

"It's stupid, what he did. Let me boost my image and go the thug route. But everybody knows you're not a thug."

— **NAJA KELLY,** IS SUSPRISED AT ARENAS GIVEN HIS REPUTATION AS A JOKESTER.

"It was a practical joke. He never meant to harm nobody."

— **DONTEA ROBINSON,** WHO HAS TAKEN ARENAS' EXPLANATION AT FACE VALUE.

Shanahan Begins Assembling His Staff

The Redskins

Mike Shanahan's tenure as the Washington Redskins head coach began at 6 a.m. Thursday in his new offices at the team's Ashburn facility. There, he began a series of meetings with the members of Jim Zorn's staff that started both the evaluation of the Redskins' roster and the interview process of the club's current coaches, some of whom hope to remain with the franchise.

Shanahan has announced only one member of his coaching staff — his son, Kyle, who left his job as the offensive coordinator with the Houston Texans to accept a position with the Redskins. But members of Zorn's staff said Shanahan had not dismissed any of Zorn's coaches — yet. The assembling of a staff, Shanahan said Wednesday, was his paramount task in the coming weeks.

With Kyle Shanahan running the offense, the main question becomes: Who will run the defense? Jerry Gray, the former All-Pro cornerback who spent the past four seasons as the Redskins secondary coach, appears to be strongly in the running, members of the organization said Thursday.

Gray, 48, previously served as a defensive coordinator with the Buffalo Bills from 2001-05. His best defenses were with the 2003 and 2004 Bills, when they ranked second in the NFL in yards allowed per game. "He has a very, very good past," Shanahan said Wednesday. "I look forward to talking to him."

Cincinnati Bengals defensive coordinator Mike Zimmer is believed to be another strong candidate for the position, as is former New Orleans head coach Jim Haslett, who was a defensive coordinator for both the Saints and the Pittsburgh Steelers. JASON REID, BARRY SVRLUGA (THE WASHINGTON POST)

sports

Numbers Game Develops in the Caps' Net

The Capitals

Laughing and joking recently at Kettler Capitals Iceplex, goaltenders Jose Theodore and Michal Neuvirth looked to be unconcerned about the subconscious battle they've been engaged in of late.

With last year's playoff sensation, Semyon Varlamov, sidelined since Dec. 7 with groin and knee injuries, Neuvirth came up from the Capitals' AHL affiliate in Hershey and has done much more than simply ease the burden of the 33-year-old Theodore — he's gotten the starting nod in seven of the Capitals' past eight games heading into Thursday's contest against Ottawa.

All of a sudden, the Capitals have three NHL-caliber goalies with no clear indication of who'll be in net come the postseason.

The 21-year-old Varlamov would be the obvious choice, since he sports a .924 save percentage and a 12-1-2 record this season, but he's missed significant time in each of his two years in D.C.

7PM | CSN
Saturday

Neuvirth, also 21, has performed admirably in eight starts, and could get another start Saturday when the Caps face Nashville.

Theodore is a former Vezina Trophy winner and looked to be on top of his game the first month of this season. But his play of late (3.15 goals against average since Oct. 30) has relegated him to being a $4.5 million back-up and forced his coach to issue an ultimatum of sorts.

"These two kids are coming in and they're playing and they're pushing him and if he's not at the top of his game, these two kids are gonna push him out," said coach Bruce Boudreau. **MARK GIANNOTTO**

NICK WASS/AP

Michal Neuvirth has racked up serious playing time since being called up.

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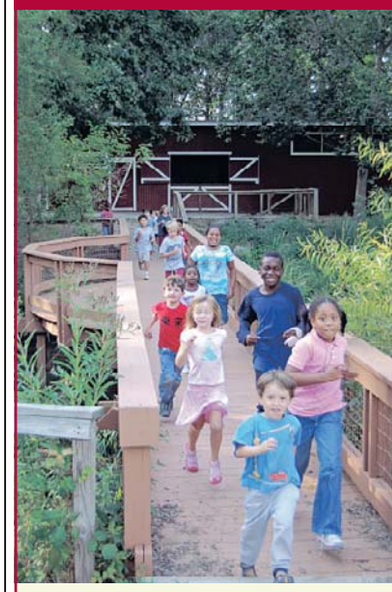

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STYLE NETWORK

Jeannie Mai

"HOW DO I LOOK?" HOST, ANTI-SPANDEX CRUSADER

Since taking over longtime Style Network makeover show "How Do I Look?" (Sat., 8 p.m.) last year, Jeannie Mai has been on a mission to rescue the country's biggest fashion victims. The show has just returned with a new batch of closet overhaul candidates, from a woman who will only wear purple to a former exotic dancer who refuses to ditch her stripper heels.

Original host Finola Hughes launched the show in 2004. How did you feel about inheriting it?

I basically grew up with the show. My style — and my experience as a stylist — blossomed as I watched it. To me, it's a cult classic. When I was offered the job, I was very excited, but also a little worried about stepping into Finola Hughes' stilettos.

Is it hard telling people they need a major makeover?

I try to play the role of a nice dentist who will tell you everything you're about to do before you do it. I'll hold your hand through the tough parts.

But that still doesn't always mean they want to hear it.

On this new season, we have a lot of tough characters who don't think they need makeovers. Their attitude is, "You suck, your style sucks and you can suck it." Sometimes I do worry that I'm going to get my butt kicked.

That sounds intense.

There were a few times when I had to stop the cameras and just take a break. It's like being in a boxing ring when you just need a moment to get some water and catch your breath.

You introduced the "Eww Tube," a big suction pipe that whisks away the ugliest items.

I think I'm going to have to patent it and start selling it next to the Snuggie. It's something that everyone in America needs — a way to rip bad clothes right out of your hands and take them out of reach forever.

> **"I'm sure Obama's very busy, but I'd really like to talk to him about outlawing super-tight material."**

Has there ever been a terrible Eww Tube disaster?

It's a little scary when it's sucking up something like huge, thick corduroy overalls or an enormous muumuu. I'm worried they're going to get stuck and break it!

If you could get people to stop wearing one thing, what would it be?

I'm sure Obama's very busy with important things, but I'd really like to talk to him about outlawing spandex — or really, any body-hugging, super-tight, shiny material. At the very least, all spandex should come with a disclaimer attached about when it can be worn.

Any other key fashion advice?

Use statement pieces like a centerpiece. If you were decorating your dining table for a guest, you'd place flowers in the middle and then put things around it that complement it. The same goes for a bright top. Pair it with neutral pants and maybe just a touch of color on your heels or lips. BETSY LOWTHER (EXPRESS)

Event Horizon | Treasure Hunting for the Hip Set

Vintage lovers flock to the D.C. Big Flea for well-priced scores like '70s leather jackets or mid-century dishware. The show returns this weekend (Sat., 9 a.m.- 6 p.m.; Sun., 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.), and on Sunday, the $10 admission fare is waived for those under 30. Dulles Expo Center (4368 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly; 757-430-4735).

goods lookout

1 Mild Side of Wild

THIS WINTER, FAUX FUR coats have been spotted on fashionistas from Centreville to Capitol Hill. For those who find even non-animal pelts too cavegirly, Prairie Underground's cotton knit shrug ($190, Beklina.com) proves warming and disarmingly stylish. Thrown over a thermal tee — or dressing down a cocktail frock — the versatile piece should attract compliments, not protesters flinging red paint.

Grab Bag

2 Chew as Directed

OUR NEW YEAR'S resolution: No sweets no more, at least until February 14. But for serious sugar emergencies, we'll keep a bottle of Chocolate Crisis Center's candies ($9, Apres Peau, 1430 K St.; 202-783-0022) close at hand. The bite-sized treats come in inspired flavor combinations like chocolate cinnamon, tiramisu cocoa or candy apple caramel, all potent enough to help sate a raging sweet tooth with just a few nibbles. Whew. Crisis averted.

3 Rainbow Connection

IF TIE-DYE DUCT TAPE had been introduced in the 1960s, not the 2010s, who knows how the Woodstuck, er Woodstock generation would've reacted? (Cue visions of the Beatles sporting groovy tape headbands or Jimi Hendrix slinging his guitar from a strap made of you-know-what.) Now, the sticky stuff from Duck Brand ($7 a roll, hardware stores or Amazon.com) brings granola cool to small repair projects or major craft endeavors (funky flower-shaped brooches, those overexposed-yet-still-awesome wallets).

4 Chime, on Your Side

WHEN YOU were a child, incessant drumming on furniture could get you grounded — or land you a time-out with Ms. Ratchet, grade-school guidance counselor. As a grown-up, Jellio's new xylophone table ($950,Jellio.com) will score you points for hip, music-minded style. Made of pine, the gazillion-times-larger-than-life design works both as a place to rest cocktails and as a percussive instrument, though we've yet to find broom-sized mallets to do it justice.

5 Primer Time

IF OUR CURRENT beauty routine had its own game show, it'd be "The Weakest Blink" — namely because not more than 15 minutes after carefully applying our eyeshadow and concealer, it's absorbed into our skin and completely invisible. Benefit's new Stay Don't Stray primer ($24, Sephora stores) is designed to combat such makeup melt — simply dab a few drops around the eye to keep cosmetics in place. The end result is a 5 o'clock shadow — but we mean that in a good way.

Grab Bag goods gathered and reviewed by Jennifer Barger and Betsy Lowther. For other food, fashion, beauty and home finds, visit expressnightout.com/grabbag

Dear Manolo

ANSWERS FROM THE SHOE BLOGGER

One of my New Year's resolutions is to get my legs in better shape by St. Valentine's Day, so I can wear some stunning heels when I go out with my boyfriend, just in case he, you know ... pops the question or something. Can you suggest a pair of red shoes for me to wear on the big day, something I can use as motivation to stick with it? —EMILY

Manolo says, needless to say, the Manolo approves of using the promised acquisition of beautiful shoes as the carrot to spur oneself to greater accomplishment. Of the

course, if one were really serious about the resolutions, one would use the stick to enforce compliance with the new regime.

Imagine how much more motivated you would be if you swore to all your friends that you would appear in public, at the fancy restaurant for the Dia de San Valentino, Festival of Amour, in the bright orange Crocs if you did not meet your goals. For the Manolo the shame of having to wear plastic dork shoes on his feets that would certainly keep him on the Stairmaster.

As for the beautiful red shoes, the Manolo recommends the Festivity from Stuart Weitzman ($450, Zappos.com), as being the suitable, and suitably named, reward for your efforts.

@ Ask the Manolo a question at manolo@shoeblogs.com. Visit the Manolo at shoeblogs.com.

event horizon

Savor rare scotches Sat., 1-3 p.m. at DC Coast (1401 K St. NW; 202-216-5988). $75, with lunch.

NEST BY NET

CLICK YOUR WAY TO A CHICER SPACE BY HIRING A DESIGN BLOGGER TO REDO YOUR PINK BEDROOM OR REVAMP THAT FRUMPY DEN — ALL FOR LESS MOOLAH THAN YOU'D SPEND ON A TRIP TO IKEA

Decorating your pad used to require devouring shelter mags and agonizing over curtains at Pottery Barn. But now, beautifying a house can start with the click of a mouse. Thanks to the lively, "Myspace or yours?" design blogosphere — with its virtual tours of swank condos and debates on Eames chairs — there are more free decor ideas on the Web than paint colors at Sherwin-Williams. Sites like Apartmentherapy.com and Designspongeonline.com serve as meeting spots for those in search of DIY hints or peeks at how others feather their nests.

Aaron Able, managing editor of Apartment Therapy, thinks the nesting blog boom stems from, "a generation that learned to go to the computer for help, no matter the subject." Twenty- and 30-somethings are more likely to hunt for beds on Westelm.com than at a brick-and-mortar shop, and they probably prefer blogs to Better Homes and Gardens.

Still, eyeballing photos of an industrial loft or watching a video on furniture-refinishing may not be enough to turn everyone into Ty Pennington. That's why many home bloggers, who range from Web-savvy interior designers to style-savvy amateurs, have launched virtual design services. For less than the price of an IKEA dresser, such e-decorators do everything from weigh in on whether Dad's chair goes with a striped rug to suggest paint hues for your den.

"Many things — furniture, fabric, vintage pieces — are online now. You don't have to sit with a decorator and go through thousands of fabric swatches to redo a room," says Isuwannee.com's Jamie Meares, who offers Internet consults from Raleigh, N.C. She bills $75 an hour; most rooms take four hours. Since hiring a trad designer can cost thousands, such rates — and those of other click-your-way-chic gurus — seem reasonable. Typical costs? $25 for tips on which sofa screams Hollywood Regency; $135 for a plan detailing which shades to paint your walls.

> **"Many things — furniture, fabric, vintage pieces — are online now."**
>
> **JAMIE MEARES,** HOME BLOGGER AND INTERIOR DESIGNER

To start, most virtual designers ask clients what they envision. Clients e-mail designers photos or video tours of their space, floor plans and links to rooms they like. "Knowing how a person dresses, entertains and what they're hoping to evoke in their space helps me get a sense of the person's style," says Cassandra LaValle of blog Coco + Kelley (Cocokelley.blogspot.com), who also hawks design services.

After the first exchange, a flurry of e-mails follows. Like an in-person consult, hiring an e-pro is as much about getting a sounding board as paint tips. "My clients are younger. They read blogs and are up on trends. They send links to postings of rooms and pieces they like," says Boston's Julie Richard, who offers "long-distance design service" via her blog, Shelter (Shelterinteriordesign.blogspot.com).

After this back-and-forth, a design plan lands in the client's inbox (or mail box) within a week or two. LaValle, for instance, sends physical inspiration boards suggesting colors, furniture layout and fabrics. She also passes on links to furniture from online stores.

Sherry Petersik, who details the rehab of a Richmond rambler with husband John at Younghouselove.com, started selling room mood boards for $250 two years ago. "A lot of people are stuck," she says.

COMING COLOR

E-designers send clients real or pdf mood boards (like this one from Coco + Kelley's Cassandra LaValle).

DESIGNER PICKS

We asked e-designers for some of their top pieces for easy updates. They included a science-lab cool metal table *($60, Urbanoutfitters.com)*, a funky zigzag pillow *($50, Twinkleliving.com)* and punchy fabric ideal for small reupholstery jobs *($90 a yard, Rubiegreen.com)*.

home lookout

MARGE ELY/EPRESS

Painted the living room Duron's Bewitching Blue

MAKEOVER MAGIC

Working with e-designer Cassandra LaValle, Annie Louise Berman made her drab living room vibrant with blue wall paint, which she also used to redo her end tables. LaValle also had Berman create an inexpensive art installation: framed Color-aid art paper (Coloraid.com).

CLICK TO CHIC

These decor blogs also offer e-design services, from color consultations to plans for your whole house.

- Katie Did, Katie-d-i-d.blogspot.com: floor plan, wall elevation sketches, concept board and shopping list ($500 and up)
- Liz Levin Nesting, Lizlevinnesting.com: Ask a designer a decor question ($25), custom fabric ordering ($150)
- Maison Luxe (Maisonluxe.blogspot.com): color consultation ($160), furniture placement ($225)

"They've stared at a room for so long, they don't know what to do. We provide fresh eyes."

Still, no matter how much advice you get from a style savant with an iBook, you're still on the hook to do the work. "You're not going to get the full service of a designer," says Petersik. "You have to stain the floor or call the electrician."

Inspired by hip blog homes, I hired LaValle to help me doll up my Georgetown rowhouse. A slew of ideas via e-mail followed, including links to rugs to buy and paint hues to try. Now my living room walls sing with blue paint, pink pillows spark up the dining room and 20 tiny abstract collages hang above my sofa. The nautical-meets-Asian mix seems harmonious and arty. Who knows — the next haute spot you see on your favorite blog might be mine. ANNIE LOUISE BERMAN

MARGE ELY/EPRESS

Put stripes on the dining room ceiling using Duron's Bewitching Blue

Moved framed maps from living room to dining room to break up space

Painted the dining room a richer blue with Duron's Dazzle.

TIP

If you use an e-decorator, do some of your treasure-hunting close to home at antiques stores, local boutiques or via Craigslist.

lookout entertainment

The Reelist

Avatar Is Barfy

As "Avatar" storms its way to the top box-office slot in the history of ever, I know I'm going to be left out. Because I'm not going to be able to see it — not in 3-D, at least. Because 3-D movies make me throw up.

By Kristen Page-Kirby

It started when I saw the Muppet 3-D movie at Disney World when I was 12. It left me with a lingering headache and a vaguely unsettled feeling. It got worse with age. The Star Trek Experience in Las Vegas ended with me dashing past a Ferengi to the ladies' room. The 4-D movie at the Newseum left me not with an appreciation of journalism, but a desire to lie down and die.

20TH CENTURY FOX

I've missed out on other movies. For example, I am a complete wimp when it comes to horror. So I've never seen "The Shining." But I've seen that episode of "The Simpsons" where no TV and no beer make Homer something something. In fact, any movie showing up on "The Simpsons" means I don't need to see it. Why bother with "Planet of the Apes"? I already know I hate every chimp I see, from chimpan-a to chimpan-zee.

If elements from a film make it into pop culture, I figure I've experienced the best parts. So imagine my surprise when it turned out "The Godfather" is actually pretty good.

"Avatar" is in 2-D, too, but I hear the script isn't good and the medium is the message here. So I'll use the time to finally see "Rocky." He wins, right?

@ Comments? Give Kristen your feedback: **expressnightout.com/thereelist**

A Haunting Farewell

Heath Ledger takes his final bow in the morbid but fitting 'Imaginarium'

Film Review

SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

The first glimpse filmgoers get of Heath Ledger in "The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus" is an unfortunate one. The actor, who died two years ago, hangs from Blackfriars Bridge, his seemingly lifeless body swaying in the icy London breeze.

Ledger's character, an apparent suicide, is found by a band of traveling carneys whose leader, the titular Dr. Parnassus (Christopher Plummer) remarks upon seeing him, "He's dead. Leave him." They don't, and their efforts to revive the attractive stranger even lead to a bit of classic physical comedy when Ledger's character is revived by one of Parnassus' itinerant players.

This by turns macabre, funny and eerie entrance turns out to be altogether fitting for Ledger, who like the character he plays is momentarily brought back to life in "The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus." As the film Ledger was making before he died, "The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus" has taken on the morbid fetishism of Hollywood legend and lore, akin to what "Giant" was to James Dean, or "The Misfits" to Marilyn Monroe.

When Ledger's character, Tony, finds himself behind the metaphysical looking glass, what Gilliam might have intended as a simple escapist fairy tale resonates in unexpected, deeper ways. These were the sequences that Ledger hadn't filmed before he died, a problem Gilliam ingeniously solved by enlisting other actors to play his otherworldly avatars. When Johnny Depp appears on screen as Ledger's first alter-ego, the moment is breathtaking and profoundly moving, as his version of Tony helps a silly wealthy woman let go of the crass materialism that drives her. The reward, he suggests, is immortality on a scale of Princess Di and Rudolph Valentino; as he invites her into her own gondola, he tells her, "Nothing is permanent. Not even death."

Indeed. "The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus" turns out to be its own spectacular and even sacred memento mori to Ledger, preserving the final performance of a gifted young actor in his prime. Seeing Ledger embody both the confidence of a suave leading man and the physical plasticity of a fine character player, the experience is not unlike the exhilaration and sadness of watching the Michael Jackson documentary "This Is It," in which the singer and dancer was so startlingly on his game. **ANN HORNADAY (THE WASHINGTON POST)**

"The Imaginarium Of Dr. Parnassus"

- **Director:** Terry Gilliam
- **Stars:** Heath Ledger, Christopher Plummer, Johnny Depp, Jude Law, Colin Farrell, Tom Waits
- **In a Nutshell:** Dr. Parnassus works against the clock to undo his deals with the devil.
- **For Fans of:** "Lord of the Rings," "Big Fish," "Dark Knight," "Monty Python"

Above, Christopher Plummer as Dr. Parnassus and Tom Waits as Mr. Nick. At left, Heath Ledger is shown as Tony, the last character he would ever play.

online now **expressnightout.com** ▸▸ Curl your lip and shake your hips at the National Portrait Gallery's exhibit on Elvis Presley's image and influence ▸▸ The lust factor leads to lip-locks on this week's 'Real World: D.C.' We have a recap ▸▸ Organic, elegant fare is on the menu at the buffed-up pizza place Radius in Mt. Pleasant

Bridges Makes Beautiful Music

The acting vet leads 'Crazy Heart' with subtlety and strength

Film Review

You don't have to be a fan of Waylon Jennings, Kris Kristofferson, Merle Haggard, Townes Van Zandt, Doug Sahm and sundry other Texans and twangers to love "Crazy Heart." But it sure can't hurt.

All those musicians are invoked by Jeff Bridges in this lovely, bittersweet romantic drama, in which he virtually channels country music's most storied outlaws, rule-benders and heartbreakers. Bridges plays Bad Blake, a grizzled singer-songwriter now performing on the Southwestern bowling alley circuit. Watching Bad on his way down makes for a pitiful sight, especially when he shows up drunk for a gig, and momentarily leaves the stage to throw up in a garbage can.

But thanks to a compassionate, self-aware performance by Bridges and the superbly restrained filmmaking of first-time writer-director Scott Cooper, "Crazy Heart" never wallows in self-pity or romanticized excess. Rather, it takes Bad and the audience on a thoroughly surprising and ultimately cheering journey, as he finds his hard-living ways challenged by a single mom, played with equal parts vulnerability and grit by Maggie Gyllenhaal.

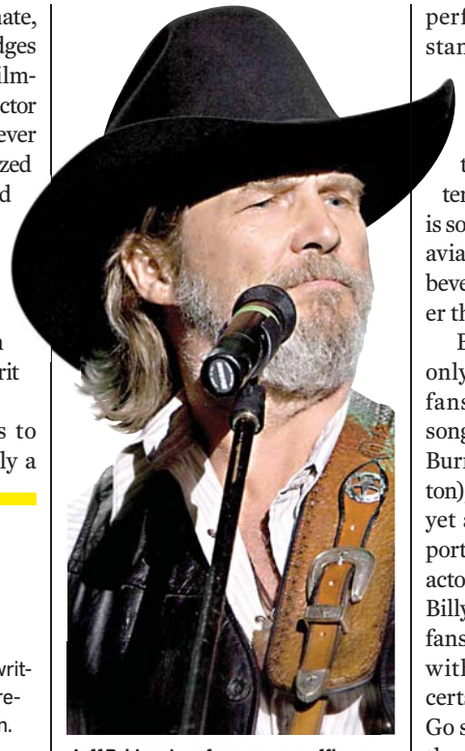
There are many reasons to admire "Crazy Heart," chiefly a performance from Bridges that stands as a quiet triumph within one of Hollywood's most durable and consistent careers, while making subtle nods to the actor's best-loved characters. ("The Big Lebowski's" Dude is somewhere behind Bad's opaque aviator shades, even if the singer's beverage of choice is whiskey rather than White Russians.)

But the virtues of "Crazy Heart" only begin with Bridges: Music fans will rejoice at the movie's songs (mostly written by T-Bone Burnett and the late Stephen Bruton); Robert Duvall fans will cheer yet another quiet, nuanced supporting performance from a great actor who knows his way around a Billy Joe Shaver song; and movie fans will appreciate Cooper's ease with everything from big concerts to intimate domestic scenes. Go see "Crazy Heart." It might be the sanest thing you do this year.

ANN HORNADAY (THE WASHINGTON POST)

"Crazy Heart"

- **Director:** Scott Cooper
- **Stars:** Jeff Bridges, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Robert Duvall
- **In a Nutshell:** A singer-songwriter falls from grace but looks for redemption in a challenging woman.
- **For Fans of:** "Walk the Line," "The Wrestler," "The Big Lebowski"



Jeff Bridges' performance reaffirms his status as one of Hollywood's finest.

Now Playing

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG, 88 MINUTE) Call it a Christmas miracle, albeit a minor one: This movie isn't entirely awful. In fact, for its young (or merely immature) target audience — your average fourth-grader — this sequel to the 2007 feature about an animated trio of squeaky-voiced singing rodents is a fair sight better than the original. That's not saying a lot, admittedly. The first film held essentially the same appeal as a party balloon filled with helium. **(MO)**

ARMORED (PG-13, 88 minutes) This cliched, half-baked crime film wastes the talents of several good actors. Columbus Short plays Ty, a new guard with an armored truck company, brought in by his godfather, Mike (Matt Dillon). Mike lures Ty into joining several other guards to hijack a truckful of cash. After Ty realizes his mistake, he tries to get out of it, but by then the heist has turned bloody.

JANE HORWITZ

AVATAR (pg-13, 161 minutes) As James Cameron proved in 1997's "Titanic," he has a penchant for melding spectacle and old-fashioned storytelling. Here, the narrative fulcrum is a classic boy-meets-girl, boy-loses-girl romance. Is the dialogue corny? You bet. Does the movie go kerblooey in its final moments, during a ferocious, explosive firefight that will leave your eyeballs bleeding? Uh-huh. But Cameron has delivered what he promised with "Avatar": an ambitious, fully immersive cinematic experience. **(AH)**

THE BLIND SIDE (PG-13, 126 minutes) There's been something off-putting about the ad campaign for this drama about a white woman who adopts a black high school student, such as posters featuring the patronizing image of Sandra Bullock gently leading her looming, gentle giant of a son down a football field. It turns out the film is much better than its ads, largely because it's based on the true story of Michael Oher and Leigh Anne Tuohy. **(AH)**

BROKEN EMBRACES (R, 127 minutes) Pedro Almodóvar's dizzyingly intricate genre-bender is related from the melancholic vantage point of a former film director named Mateo Bianco (Lluís Homar).

Continued on page 26

Nightlife Agenda

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO TONIGHT? BY FRITZ HAHN, RHOME ANDERSON AND DAVID MALITZ

FRIDAY

They did Jiggaman, and now it's all Wu all night. The **LOUNGE OF THREE** crew are taking their hip-hop happy hour concept to prime time with a first Fridays kick-off featuring all the Wu-Tang Clan you can handle. DJ Nick the 1da will remind you of the quality songs buried in the dreck of Method Man's post-debut albums. Toney Starks will factor prominently. There may even be selections from Wu-affiliated third-stringers like Sunz of Man, Remedy and Killarmy, tracks like "The Pillage" by Cappadonna or Inspectah Deck's collabs with Pete Rock. Doors open at 5 p.m., the happy hour deals include $1 rail drinks and margaritas until 7, and the music and kung-fu flicks on the screen go from 9 p.m. until 3 a.m.

One of David's favorite "Saturday Night Live" sketches from the '90s was about the British Fops. It featured David Koechner and Mark McKinney dressed in powdered wigs, Victorian blouses and knickers and speaking in ridiculous accents and ... well, that's about it. If that duo were in a band, they'd be in the Upper Crust, a Boston outfit that wears ridiculous outfits. Don't expect any baroque stylings, though. The band plays straightforward hard rock, just a step removed from AC/DC, riffs as big as the wigs sitting on the band members' heads. Death By Sexy and Fishnet Stalkers open at **BLACK CAT**.

MAYA HAYUK

Listen to RJD2 show off his hot new tricks this Saturday night at the 9:30 Club.

SATURDAY

The dawning of a new decade inspires grandiosity in many, but RJD2's new album, "The Colossus," might deliver on its name's promise. This versatile DJ began his career 10 years ago as a vinyl surgeon on the indie hip-hop scene, crafting beats for underground rappers. His work still bears some of that DNA — the raw b-boy breaks are still there — but the instrumentation now extends from dreamy downtempo melodies to jagged industrial sounds. His is the work of a highly sought-after producer, one who used the basic tools of hip-hop beat craft as gateways to comprehensive studio mastery. This is a **9:30 CLUB** show not to miss.

Check out an extended version of "Nightlife Agenda" each Thursday at washingtonpost.com/gog

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lookout entertainment

NowPlaying

Continued from page 25

Now blind and cryptically self-reinvented under the alias of Harry Caine, he churns out screenplays aided by an extended work family consisting of an aspiring writer-cum-nightclub DJ named Diego (Tamar Novas) and his ever-watchful mother, Judit (the estimable Blanca Portillo), whose maternal concerns become increasingly fraught as the coiled plot opens out. The picture's female lead is Lena (Penélope Cruz), an eager-beaver neophyte whose only other acting experience consists of feigning sexual interest in her sugar daddy, Ernesto Martel (José Luis Gómez). For the sheer complexity of its narrative arc, the film inspires a kind of awe. But we get so wrapped up in the filmmaker's attention to structure that we walk away impressed without being particularly moved. **JAN STUART**

BROTHERS (R, 110 minutes) In 2007, Capt. Sam Cahill (Tobey Maguire) leaves behind his beautiful wife, Grace (Natalie Portman), to fight the Taliban. Early in the film, Sam's helicopter is shot down in the mountains, and he's presumed dead, leaving Grace to seek solace with Sam's younger brother Tommy (Jake Gyllenhaal), who's fresh out of prison but who redeems himself with his sister-in-law. Meanwhile, back in Afghanistan, Sam isn't actually dead. **(MO)**

A CHRISTMAS CAROL (PG, 96 minutes) The umpteenth iteration of the holiday classic gets a manic makeover under

ETHAN HAWKE / WILLEM DAFOE / ISABEL LUCAS / AND SAM NEILL

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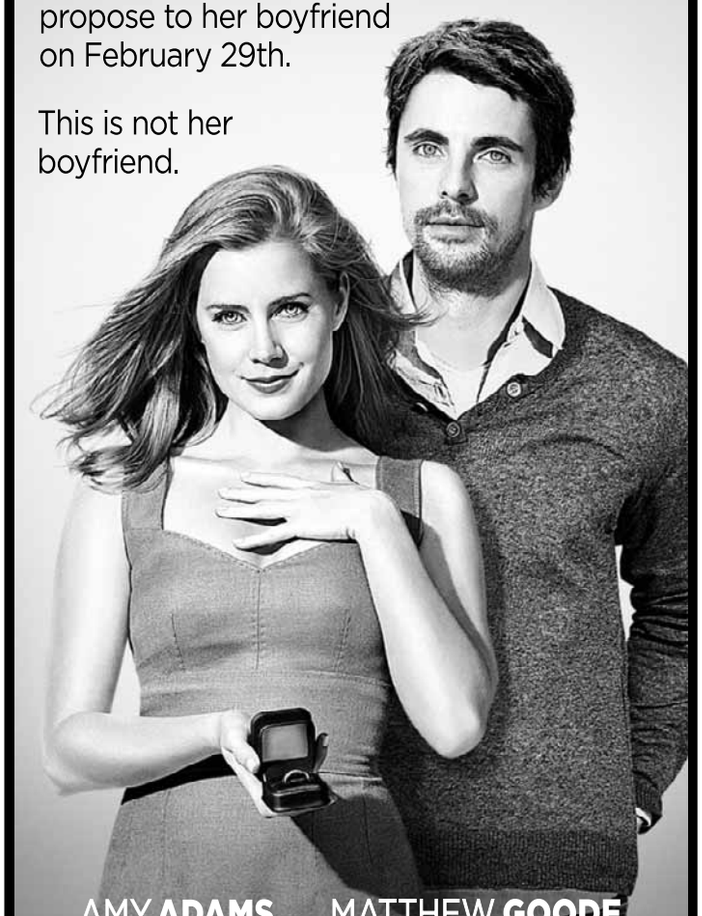
Anna planned to propose to her boyfriend on February 29th.

This is not her boyfriend.



AMY ADAMS MATTHEW GOODE

LEAPYEAR

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A BENDERSPINK PRODUCTION A FILM BY ANAND TUCKER AMY ADAMS "LEAP YEAR" MATTHEW GOODE ADAM SCOTT
AND JOHN LITHGOW MUSIC BY RANDY EDELMAN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS J.C. SPINK SU ARMSTRONG PRODUCED BY GARY BARBER
ROGER BIRNBAUM JONATHAN GLICKMAN CHRIS BENDER JAKE WEINER WRITTEN BY DEBORAH KAPLAN & HARRY ELFONT

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SENSUALITY AND LANGUAGE

DIRECTED BY ANAND TUCKER

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entertainment lookout

THE WEINSTEIN CO.

Kate Hudson, center, stars in "Nine" as Stephanie, an American fashion journalist and one of the women in Guido Contini's life.

the direction of Robert Zemeckis, who applies the same motion-capture animation he used to mixed effect in "The Polar Express" to create a fable that is by turns antic, scary, sweet and, in the end, slightly soulless. Just because something can be done with computers doesn't mean it should be. **(MO)**

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS? (PG-13, 96 minutes) Whether they're dealing with a tame-looking grizzly bear or the strangely incompetent hit man (Michael Kelly) who's trying to rub them out, the Morgans whine. And if they're not having fun, how are we supposed to? **(MO)**

AN EDUCATION (PG-13, 100 minutes) Sixteen-year-old Jenny (Carey Mulligan) lives in London with her anxious, ambitious parents, who are channeling all their postwar striving into aspirations for their bright, pretty daughter. Jenny is headed to Oxford and, presumably, better things when she crosses paths with David (Peter Sarsgaard), a handsome older man. **(AH)**

FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG, 87 minutes) Wes Anderson's stop-motion animated adaptation of the Roald Dahl children's book features the voice of George Clooney as the title character, who as the movie opens is stealing squabs. Two years later, he's living in cozy domesticity with Mrs. Fox (voiced by Meryl Streep). He then suffers something of a midlife crisis that threatens his entire community. **(AH)**

INVICTUS (PG-13, 133 minutes) Matt Damon plays Francois Pienaar, the captain of the South African rugby team the Springboks, which in 1995 won the World Cup. The movie tells the story of that unlikely and politically crucial victory, which as much as anything was the result of the gentle coaxing and adamantine moral suasion of the country's new president, Nelson Mandela. Morgan Freeman doesn't play Mandela as much as inhabit the man, in a performance that seems to embody the very transcendence that Mandela himself has come to stand for. **(AH)**

IT'S COMPLICATED (R, 119 MINUTES) As Jane and Jake Adler — 10 years divorced and with three grown children, yet suddenly drawn back into each other's lives (and beds) after a drunken fling over the weekend of their son's (Hunter Parrish) college graduation — Alec Baldwin and Meryl Streep pick up the movie and run away with it. The writing and direction, by rom-com veteran Nancy Meyers ("Something's Gotta Give"), are deft enough. But it's Streep and Baldwin's gamely ribald performances, and their seemingly effortless, effervescent chemistry, that put the pep in this movie's highly choreographed, yet richly entertaining step. **(MO)**

NINE (PG-13, 120 MINUTES) "Nine" bounces into theaters as a bright, shiny bauble of cinematic self-reference and mythologizing, begging so insistently to be loved that it winds up pushing the audience away. "Nine" is about Guido Contini (Daniel Day-Lewis), a legendary Italian filmmaker who in 1965, on the eve of directing his latest picture, finds himself creatively blocked and preoccupied with the women in his life, madonnas and whores alike. An insurmountable

Continued on page 28

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lookout entertainment

NowPlaying

Continued from page 27

flaw of "Nine" is that it asks viewers so blithely to identify with a protagonist whose overwhelming ego, insecurity and selfishness they're meant to confuse with artistic genius. **(AH)**

NEW MOON (PG-13, 119 minutes) The second film adaptation of author Stephenie Meyer's wildly popular supernatural romance series continues the impossible love story between teenager Bella Swan (Kristen Stewart) and Edward Cullen (Robert Pattinson), a vampire in the body of a preternaturally pale Ralph Lauren model almost 100 years her senior. **(MO)**

OLD DOGS (PG, 88 minutes) Recycling the overly familiar "instant parent" theme, Walt Becker's film has Robin Williams as Dan, a button-down type whose love life has been far less successful than the sports-marketing firm he runs with Charlie (John Travolta). When Charlie drags his partner on vacation, Dan winds up married to Vicki (Kelly Preston). The two get an annulment, but seven years later, Vicki shows up and drops off the two kids Dan never knew he had. **(JA)**

PLANET 51 (PG, 90 minutes) This is a cute film. Cute, however, is a double-edged sword. The animated movie succeeds as a gently wry twist on "E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial," in which the "alien" is a human astronaut (Dwayne Johnson) who gets stuck on a planet of little green men and has to enlist the help of a plucky youngster, Lem (Justin Long), to get home. **(MO)**

WARNER BROS.

Robert Downey Jr. gives the classic sleuth a twist in "Sherlock Holmes."

PRECIOUS (R, 109 minutes) Gabourey Sidibe inhabits the title character, Precious Jones, a morbidly obese 16-year-old who lives with her toxically abusive mother, Mary (Mo'Nique), in 1980s Harlem. As the movie opens, Precious learns that she's pregnant with her second child; she is also encouraged to join an alternative education program, where she eventually finds love, acceptance and her own voice in a writing class. **(AH)**

THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (G, 95 minutes) Few movies have been greeted with as much anticipation — and outright apprehension — as Disney's first animated movie to feature a black princess. You can exhale now: The film is a triumph on every one of the myriad levels it has been asked to succeed on. **(AH)**

SHERLOCK HOLMES (PG-13, 125 minutes) Directed by Guy Ritchie ("Rockn-Rolla") and starring Robert Downey Jr., the newest contribution to the world of Arthur Conan Doyle spinoffs is less a product of genuinely Holmesian DNA than, say, "Se7en." There's black magic here, too; Lord Blackwood (Mark Strong) — who has been going around London dispensing with people in ritualistic, occult executions — has apparently risen from the dead. In the plus column is Downey's performance. The actor gets one important thing just right. That's a sense of Holmes as a brilliant misfit, a kind of autistic savant who hears, sees and remembers everything. There's nothing terribly wrong with Jude Law's performance as Holmes's right-hand man, though he's considerably less stuffy than traditionally portrayed. Many will welcome that as a breath of fresh air, along with the

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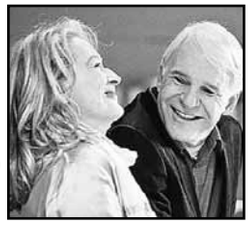
REX REED, THE NEW YORK OBSERVER

"PREPARE TO DIE LAUGHING. Nancy Meyers' best romantic comedy yet."
KAREN DURBIN, ELLE

"MOVIES DON'T GET ANY FUNNIER THAN THIS!"
PETE HAMMOND, BOXOFFICE MAGAZINE



"It's Complicated' is a celebration of Streep."
DAVID EDELSTEIN, NEW YORK MAGAZINE

"MEMORABLY HILARIOUS."
PETER TRAVERS, ROLLING STONE

MERYL STREEP STEVE MARTIN ALEC BALDWIN
Written and Directed by Nancy Meyers
it's Complicated

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"THE FILM IS PACKED WITH DELIGHTFUL PERFORMANCES BY ZACH GALIFIANAKIS, JUSTIN LONG AND STEVE BUSCEMI."
-MARSHALL FINE, THE HUFFINGTON POST

"DESTRUCTION, SEX AND LAUGHS."
-PETER TRAVERS, ROLLING STONE

MICHAEL CERA PORTIA DOUBLEDAY ZACH GALIFIANAKIS WITH JUSTIN LONG AND STEVE BUSCEMI AND RAY LIOTTA

youth in revolt

PRODUCED BY DAVID PERMUT BASED ON THE NOVEL "YOUTH IN REVOLT: THE JOURNALS OF NICK TWISP" BY C.D. PAYNE SCREENPLAY BY GUSTIN NASH DIRECTED BY MIGUEL ARTETA
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entertainment lookout

Colin Firth stars as a college professor struggling to find the meaning of life after the death of his partner in "A Single Man."

increased prominence of Irene Adler (Rachel McAdams), whose expanded role here tones down the film's overpowering aroma of testosterone. **(MO)**

A SINGLE MAN (R, 99 MINUTES) In the movie, adapted from a Christopher Isherwood novel by Tom Ford, Colin Firth plays George Falconer, a college professor living in Los Angeles in 1962. As "A Single Man" opens, George is awaking to another day, haunted by the memory of a departed lover. With its day-in-the-life structure, "A Single Man" could be accurately described as a relationship drama, with George impassively going through the motions of random encounters with friends, colleagues and strangers. As "A Single Man" works its subtle magic, with George attaining an almost ecstatic vision of what it means to be alive, the movie takes on the momentum and narrative tension of a thriller. **(AH)**

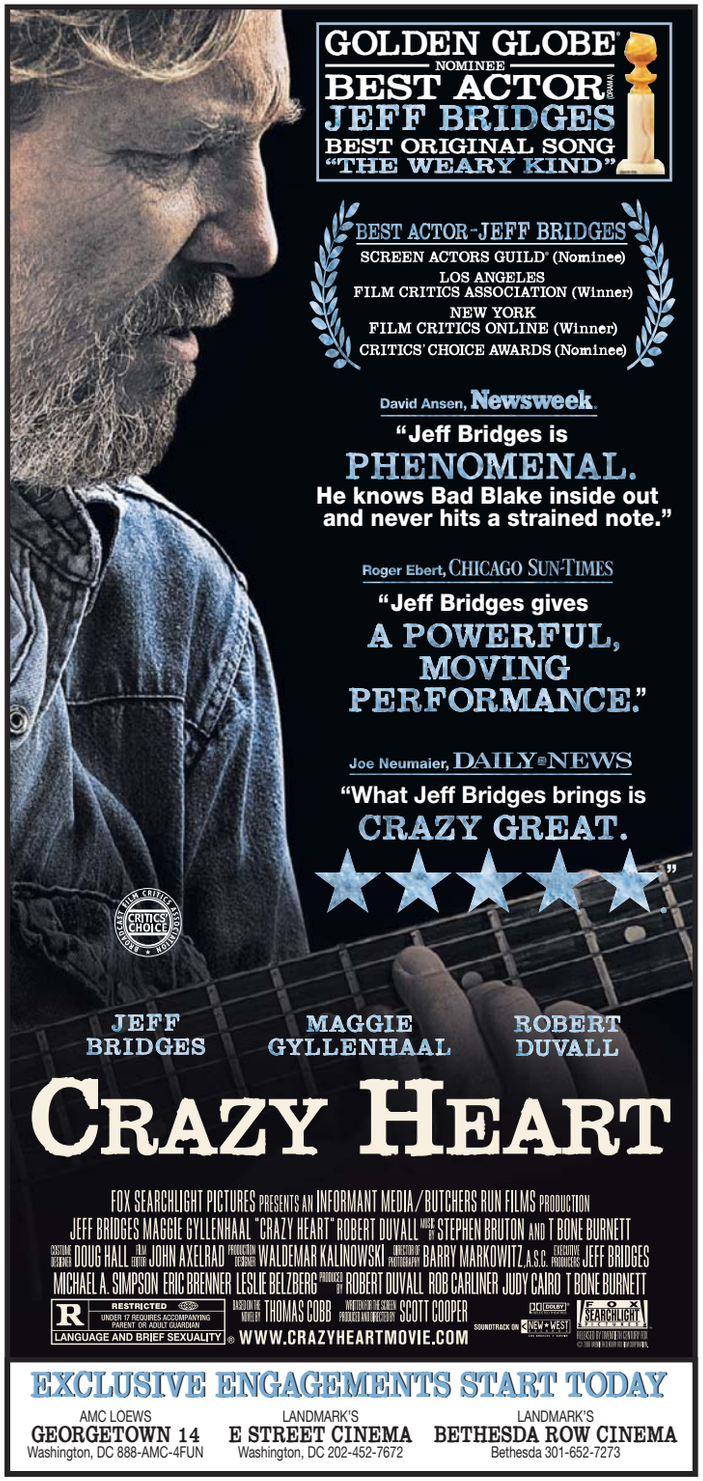
THE ROAD (R, 113 minutes) Like "No Country for Old Men," which is also based on a Cormac McCarthy book, this film's philosophical and aesthetic seriousness serve mostly to point out the essentially shallow mannerisms of their source material. Among McCarthy's blessings here is Viggo Mortensen, who delivers a haunting, deeply felt performance as a nameless man leading his young son (Kodi Smit-McPhee) through a landscape charred by an unspecified disaster. **(MO)**

2012 (PG-13, 158 minutes) Starting with the long-held misapprehension that the Mayan calendar picks 2012 as the date of humanity's doom, director Roland Emmerich fleshes out that bit of pseudo-history with some pseudoscience and throws hundreds of millions of dollars at it. **(DK)**

UP IN THE AIR (R, 109 minutes) There are few things more sublime than George Clooney in his comfort zone, and when it happens, the best advice is to sit back, relax and enjoy the flight. In this case, literally: Clooney plays Ryan Bingham, a corporate downsizer who spends most of his life in airplanes. It is a smart, alert, supremely entertaining movie, in which Reitman toggles between comedy and drama, satire and soul, with the aplomb of hero pilot Chesley Sullenberger. **(AH)**

THE YOUNG VICTORIA (PG, 100 minutes) "The Young Victoria" is a visually arresting film about the courtship of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. The movie, which stars Emily Blunt in the title role, sends viewers so gracefully into the rites and habits and language of another era that they don't realize how much information they're absorbing. **(AH)**

REVIEWS BY THE WASHINGTON POST'S JOHN ANDERSON, ANN HORNADAY, DAN KOIS, MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN AND DESSON THOMSON. FOR MORE CAPSULES AND REVIEWS OF THESE AND OTHER FILMS, SEE WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT



lookout expressnightout.com

Compiled by Fiona Zublin. For more upcoming events, follow the Top Stops blog at expressnightout.com/topstops.

1 New Wave Times Two

Meet your quota of international feasts for the eye at Sunday's Double Dutch Double Feature screening will show two French classics: Alain Resnais' "Last Year at Marienbad" and Jean Luc Godard's "Breathless" (left). These two movies shouldn't be missed. F.Z. ***National Museum of African Art, 950 Independence Ave. SW; Sat., Jan. 9, 5:30 p.m., free; 202-633-1000, Africa.si.edu. (Smithsonian)***

2 D-R-U-N-K

This weekend, the Rock and Roll Hotel will combine D.C.'s two favorite things: booze and wonkiness. The Rock and Roll Spelling Buzz is a spelling bee wherein contestants (the first 20 people to start a tab at the bar upstairs) will spell National Spelling Bee words until they make a mistake. The catch is that they have to take a shot and drink a beer before each turn. This won't last long. F.Z. ***Rock and Roll Hotel, 1353 H St. NE; Fri., Jan. 8, 7 p.m.-9 p.m., free; 202-388-7625, Rockandrollhoteldc.com.***

3 Welcome to Japan

The Textile Museum's exhibit on Japanese fashion highlights the country's quirky style. See it come to life with a Harajuku fashion show. If you've never heard of Harajuku, our explanations won't make any sense. Think striped stockings, neon wigs and anime-inspired makeup. If you need a new style now that "Jersey chic" is played out, hit this up for inspiration. F.Z. ***Textile Museum, 2320 S St. NW; Sun., Jan. 10, 2 p.m.-4 p.m., $20; 202-667-0441, Textilemuseum.org. (Dupont Circle)***

local movie times

◆ No Passes ( ) Bargain Show Times

Washington DC

Landmark Theatres

Landmark's E-Street Cinema — www.landmarktheatres.com

THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW (R) 12:00 Midnight
BLACK DYNAMITE (R) 12:00 Midnight
BROKEN EMBRACES (R) (1:00, 4:00)7:00, 9:55
THE YOUNG VICTORIA (PG) (1:30, 2:45, 5:15)6:45, 7:45, 10:10
CRAZY HEART (R) (1:15, 2:45, 4:15, 5:30)6:45, 8:15, 9:30, 11:00
A SINGLE MAN (R) (1:40, 4:30)7:20, 9:45, 11:45
NINE (PG–13) (2:15, 4:00, 5:00)8:00, 9:15, 10:45
AN EDUCATION (PG–13) (2:05, 4:35)7:05, 9:35

The Avalon Theatre

The Avalon Theatre — www.theavalon.org

IT'S COMPLICATED (R) 12:00, 2:45, 5:30, 8:15
INVICTUS (PG–13) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30

AMC Theaters

AMC Loews Uptown — www.amctheatres.com

AVATAR (PG–13) 12:00, 3:25, 7:00, 10:35

AMC Theaters

AMC Mazza Gallerie — www.amctheatres.com

DAYBREAKERS (R) 11:45, 2:20, 5:00, 7:45, 10:20
IT'S COMPLICATED (R) 1:15, 4:20, 7:10, 10:10
SHERLOCK HOLMES (PG–13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:20, 10:30
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG) 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:30, 10:00
AVATAR 3D (PG–13) 11:30, 3:15, 7:00, 10:45
IN DIGITAL 3-D
THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (G) 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:25
THE BLIND SIDE (PG–13) 1:20, 4:15, 7:15, 10:05

AMC Theaters

AMC Loews Georgetown — www.amctheatres.com

YOUTH IN REVOLT (R) 10:35, 12:55, 3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:15, 12:25
DAYBREAKERS (R) 9:45, 12:00, 2:25, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55, 12:15
AMC Select
THE IMAGINARIUM OF DOCTOR PARNASSUS (PG–13) 11:00, 1:55, 4:45, 7:35, 10:25
LEAP YEAR (PG) 9:45, 12:05, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:10, 12:35
AMC Select
NINE (PG–13) 10:20, 1:15, 4:05, 6:50, 9:40, 12:30
IT'S COMPLICATED (R) 11:20, 2:10, 5:00, 7:55, 10:45
11:20, 2:10, 5:00, 7:55, 10:45
SHERLOCK HOLMES (PG–13) 10:25, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG) 10:50, 1:10, 3:30, 5:50, 8:15, 10:35
AMC Select
UP IN THE AIR (R) 11:10, 1:50, 4:35, 7:15, 10:00, 12:30
DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS? (PG–13) 10:40 P.M.
AVATAR 3D (PG–13) 11:35, 3:10, 6:45, 10:20
IN DIGITAL 3-D
AMC Select
CRAZY HEART (R) 10:45, 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45, 12:20
THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (G) 10:15, 12:40, 3:05, 5:35, 8:05
INVICTUS (PG–13) 10:00, 1:00, 4:00, 6:55, 9:50
THE BLIND SIDE (PG–13) 10:30, 1:25, 4:10, 7:10, 10:05

Regal Cinemas

Regal Gallery Place Stadium — www.regmovies.com

THE BOOK OF ELI (R)
YOUTH IN REVOLT (R) (12:30)3:10, 5:30, 8:00, 10:20, 12:30
DAYBREAKERS (R) (12:20, 2:50)5:20, 8:10, 10:40
LEAP YEAR (PG) (12:10, 2:40)5:10, 7:45, 10:10, 12:35
THE IMAGINARIUM OF DOCTOR PARNASSUS (PG–13) (1:00)4:20, 7:30, 10:35
SHERLOCK HOLMES (PG–13) (12:15, 12:45)3:20, 4:00, 6:20, 7:20, 9:20, 10:15, 12:20
IT'S COMPLICATED (R) (1:20)4:10, 7:00, 9:45, 12:25
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG) (11:40, 2:30)4:50, 7:10, 9:30, 11:50
AVATAR 3D (PG–13) (11:30, 12:50, 3:00, 4:40)6:30, 8:20, 10:00, 12:00
DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS? (PG–13) (1:20)
THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (G) (11:35)
INVICTUS (PG–13) 3:50, 7:05, 10:05 THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (G) (1:55)4:15, 6:40, 9:10, 11:30
UP IN THE AIR (R) (12:40)3:30, 6:50, 9:30, 12:10
THE BLIND SIDE (PG–13) (1:40)7:40
PRECIOUS: BASED ON THE NOVEL ``PUSH" BY SAPPHIRE (R) 5:00, 10:30

Virginia

Old Town Theatre

Alexandria — www.oldtowntheatre.com

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Arlington Cinema 'N' Drafthouse

Arlington — www.arlingtondrafthouse.com

ZOMBIELAND (R) 11:55 P.M.
THE INVENTION OF LYING (PG–13) 7:30 P.M.

Regal Potomac Yards

Alexandria — www.regmovies.com

THE BOOK OF ELI (R)
YOUTH IN REVOLT (R) (11:55, 2:20, 4:55)7:20, 9:45, 12:00
LEAP YEAR (PG) (2:10, 5:00)7:45, 10:20
AVATAR 3D (PG–13) (11:50, 2:30, 3:30)6:10, 7:10, 9:50, 10:50
AVATAR (PG–13) (1:30, 5:10)8:50
DAYBREAKERS (R) (12:25, 2:50, 4:15, 5:15)7:00, 8:00, 9:25, 10:25, 11:50
SHERLOCK HOLMES (PG–13) (12:10, 1:10, 3:10, 4:10)6:30, 7:30, 9:40, 10:40
IT'S COMPLICATED (R) (1:50, 4:45)6:50, 7:40, 9:55, 10:45
NINE (PG–13) (1:40)10:00
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG) (12:35, 2:00, 3:00, 4:25, 5:25) 7:50, 10:15
DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS? (PG–13) (2:15)
INVICTUS (PG–13) (5:00)8:10, 11:30
THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (G) (12:50)
(3:25)6:00, 8:35
BROTHERS (R) (1:20)11:10
THE BLIND SIDE (PG–13) (12:20, 3:20)6:20, 9:20
PRECIOUS: BASED ON THE NOVEL ``PUSH" BY SAPPHIRE (R) (4:30)7:15

Regal Kingstowne Stadium

Alexandria — www.regmovies.com

THE BOOK OF ELI (R)
DAYBREAKERS (R) (11:10, 1:50)4:20, 7:10, 10:10
YOUTH IN REVOLT (R) (12:10, 2:50)5:30, 8:00, 10:30
LEAP YEAR (PG) (11:40, 2:20)5:20, 8:10, 10:45
SHERLOCK HOLMES (PG–13) (12:30)3:40, 6:50, 7:40, 10:00, 10:50
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG) (11:00, 12:00, 1:40, 2:40) 4:10, 5:10, 7:20, 9:50
AVATAR 3D (PG–13) (11:20, 12:10)3:00, 3:50, 6:40, 7:30, 10:20, 11:00
NINE (PG–13) 3:20, 9:00
IT'S COMPLICATED (R) (12:20)3:30, 6:30, 9:40
DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS? (PG–13) (12:40)6:10
AVATAR (PG–13) 9:30 P.M.
INVICTUS (PG–13) 3:10 P.M.
THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (G) (11:30, 2:00)4:30, 7:00
UP IN THE AIR (R) (11:20, 2:10)5:00, 7:50, 10:35
THE BLIND SIDE (PG–13) (11:50)6:20, 9:20

Regal Ballston Common Stadium

Arlington — www.regmovies.com

LEAP YEAR (PG) (2:05, 4:45)7:05, 9:55
THE IMAGINARIUM OF DOCTOR PARNASSUS (PG–13) (12:05, 3:00)6:45, 9:45
SHERLOCK HOLMES (PG–13) (1:20, 2:00, 3:10, 4:25, 5:00)6:30, 7:30, 8:00, 10:35
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG–13) (12:30, 3:30)7:35, 10:30
NINE (PG–13) (12:20, 3:35)7:10, 9:50
AVATAR (PG–13) (1:00, 4:40)8:20
AVATAR 3D (PG–13) (12:00, 2:40, 3:40)6:20, 7:20, 10:00
THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (G) (12:55, 3:25)6:00, 8:40
UP IN THE AIR (R) (12:15, 1:50, 4:30)7:40, 9:30, 10:25

AMC Theatres Courthouse Plaza

Arlington — www.amctheatres.com

YOUTH IN REVOLT (R) 12:35, 2:50, 5:15, 7:30, 9:40
DAYBREAKERS (R) 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:10
IT'S COMPLICATED (R) 12:00, 1:20, 2:30, 4:10, 5:10, 6:50, 7:50, 9:30, 10:30
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG) 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:10
AMC Select
THE ROAD (R) 3:10, 8:00
DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS? (PG–13) 12:50, 5:40, 10:25
INVICTUS (PG–13) 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:15
THE BLIND SIDE (PG–13) 1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00

AMC Theatres Hoffman Center

Alexandria — www.amctheatres.com

YOUTH IN REVOLT (R) 11:40, 2:10, 4:50, 7:25, 9:55, 12:15
DAYBREAKERS (R) 10:45, 12:10, 1:30, 3:00, 4:30, 6:30, 7:40, 9:20, 10:20, 12:10
AMC Select
THE IMAGINARIUM OF DOCTOR PARNASSUS (PG–13) 10:25, 1:25, 4:35, 7:45, 10:45
LEAP YEAR (PG) 11:00, 1:55, 4:40, 7:35, 10:15
AMC Select
NINE (PG–13) 10:20, 1:35, 5:00, 8:25, 11:50
IT'S COMPLICATED (R) 11:15, 2:30, 5:45, 6:50, 9:00, 10:00, 12:00
SHERLOCK HOLMES (PG–13) 10:00, 1:00, 4:10, 6:20, 7:20, 9:30, 10:30
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG) 10:15, 11:10, 12:45, 1:45, 3:20, 4:25, 7:00, 9:50
AMC Select
UP IN THE AIR (R) 11:45, 2:35, 5:20, 8:10, 11:20
AMC Select
THE ROAD (R) 12:55, 6:45
DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS? (PG–13) 12:40, 3:45, 6:35
AVATAR: AN IMAX 3D EXPERIENCE (PG–13) 11:30, 3:25, 7:10, 11:05
AVATAR 3D (PG–13) 10:30, 12:30, 2:15, 4:15, 6:00, 8:05, 9:45, 11:55
IN DIGITAL 3-D
THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (G) 10:40, 11:25, 1:20, 2:05, 4:55, 7:50, 10:25
INVICTUS (PG–13) 11:20, 2:50, 6:15, 9:35
ARMORED (PG–13) 10:40, 1:20, 4:05, 6:40, 9:20, 11:45
BROTHERS (R) 9:25 P.M.
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG–13) 3:40, 9:40
THE BLIND SIDE (PG–13) 12:50, 4:20, 7:30, 10:40
2012 (PG–13) 10:10, 1:50, 5:30, 9:15

Maryland

AFI Silver Theatre Cultural Center

Silver Spring — www.afi.com/silver

UP IN THE AIR (R) 12:25, 2:40, 4:55, 7:20, 9:35
THE YOUNG VICTORIA (PG) 12:30, 2:35, 4:50, 7:10, 9:20
AN EDUCATION (PG–13) 12:45, 5:00
A SERIOUS MAN (R) 2:45, 7:00, 9:10

Landmark Bethesda Row Cinema

Bethesda — www.landmarktheatres.com

CRAZY HEART (R) (2:00, 4:40)7:20, 9:55
THE IMAGINARIUM OF DOCTOR PARNASSUS (PG–13) (1:30, 4:15)7:00, 9:50
UP IN THE AIR (R) (1:45, 3:30, 4:30)6:15, 7:15, 9:00, 10:00
A SINGLE MAN (R) (1:50, 4:25)7:10, 9:30
THE YOUNG VICTORIA (PG) (1:40, 4:20)7:05, 9:35
BROKEN EMBRACES (R) (12:50, 3:40)6:45, 9:45
NINE (PG–13) (1:00, 3:45)6:30, 9:15
FANTASTIC MR. FOX (PG) (12:45)

AMC Loews Center Park

Beltsville — www.amctheatres.com

DAYBREAKERS (R) 1:00, 3:25, 5:50, 8:15, 10:35
LEAP YEAR (PG) 12:05, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 10:00
IT'S COMPLICATED (R) 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:25
1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:25
SHERLOCK HOLMES (PG–13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG) 12:50, 3:00, 5:15, 7:35, 9:50
AVATAR (PG–13) 12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:30
THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (G) 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 9:55
INVICTUS (PG–13) 7:10, 10:10
THE BLIND SIDE (PG–13) 1:30, 4:30

AMC Loews White Flint

Kensington — www.amctheatres.com

IT'S COMPLICATED (R) 10:30, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:20
SHERLOCK HOLMES (PG–13) 10:50, 1:45, 4:45, 7:40, 10:30
AMC Select
UP IN THE AIR (R) 10:15, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50
AVATAR (PG–13) 11:30, 3:15, 6:45, 10:10
THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (G) 10:40, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:40

AMC Magic Johnson Capital Center

Largo — www.amctheatres.com

DAYBREAKERS (R) 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40, 12:10
LEAP YEAR (PG) 11:50, 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50, 12:20
IT'S COMPLICATED (R) 11:00, 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:45
SHERLOCK HOLMES (PG–13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG) 11:45, 12:35, 2:15, 3:05, 4:30, 5:35, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30, 11:50
AVATAR (PG–13) 12:30, 4:05, 7:35, 11:05
DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS? (PG–13) 11:55, 2:40
AVATAR 3D (PG–13) 11:30, 3:00, 6:30, 10:00
IN DIGITAL 3-D
THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (G) 11:20, 12:20, 1:50, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20
ARMORED (PG–13) 5:10, 7:30, 9:45, 12:00
AMC Select
PRECIOUS: BASED ON THE NOVEL ``PUSH" BY SAPPHIRE (R) 11:35, 2:05, 4:35, 7:05, 9:35, 12:05
THE BLIND SIDE (PG–13) 4:25, 7:25, 10:25

Regal Bethesda

Bethesda — www.regmovies.com

THE BOOK OF ELI (R)
YOUTH IN REVOLT (R) (1:10, 3:20, 5:30)8:00, 10:30
DAYBREAKERS (R) (12:40, 3:00, 5:20)7:40, 10:00
LEAP YEAR (PG) (12:00, 2:30, 4:50)7:10, 9:40
IT'S COMPLICATED (R) (11:20, 2:00, 4:40)7:20, 10:05
SHERLOCK HOLMES (PG–13) (11:20, 2:10, 5:00)7:50, 10:40
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG) (11:50, 2:15, 4:30)6:50, 9:10
DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS? (PG–13) (1:00)
AVATAR 3D (PG–13) (12:20, 3:40)7:00, 10:20
INVICTUS (PG–13) (12:30, 3:30)6:30, 9:30
THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (G) (11:40, 1:50, 4:20)6:40, 9:00
THE BLIND SIDE (PG–13) (4:00)7:30, 10:25

Regal Majestic Cinema

Silver Spring — www.regmovies.com

THE BOOK OF ELI (R)
DAYBREAKERS (R) (11:00, 1:00, 1:55, 3:35, 4:20)6:15, 7:35, 8:35, 10:05, 11:00, 12:20
YOUTH IN REVOLT (R) (11:40, 2:20, 5:00)7:25, 9:50, 12:05
LEAP YEAR (PG) (11:50, 2:45, 5:10)7:55, 10:35
THE IMAGINARIUM OF DOCTOR PARNASSUS (PG–13) (11:10, 2:05, 5:40)8:25, 11:10
AVATAR 3D (PG–13) (11:45, 1:15, 3:15, 4:30)6:45, 7:45, 10:15, 11:15
AVATAR (PG–13) (12:30, 3:45)7:15, 10:45
SHERLOCK HOLMES (PG–13) (12:10, 1:05, 3:05, 4:00)6:00, 7:00, 8:55, 10:00, 11:45
(10:55, 1:45, 5:05)8:05, 10:50
IT'S COMPLICATED (R) (12:45, 3:30)6:30, 7:30, 9:15, 10:20, 11:55
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG) (11:25, 12:05, 12:35, 1:30, 2:30, 3:00, 3:50, 4:45, 5:20) 6:20, 6:55, 8:45, 9:20, 11:05, 11:35
INVICTUS (PG–13) (12:00, 2:55)6:40, 9:40
THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (G) (12:15, 2:35, 4:50)7:05, 9:35
THE BLIND SIDE (PG–13) (11:30, 2:10, 5:25)8:10, 10:55
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON (PG–13) (11:55, 2:50)6:10, 11:40
PRECIOUS: BASED ON THE NOVEL ``PUSH" BY SAPPHIRE (R) (3:20)8:50, 11:30
NINE (PG–13) (12:40)6:05
DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS? (PG–13) 9:10 P.M.

Regal Royale Stadium

Hyattsville — www.regmovies.com

THE BOOK OF ELI (R)
LEAP YEAR (PG) (1:25, 4:15)7:15, 9:45
YOUTH IN REVOLT (R) (1:55, 4:00)7:10, 9:35
DAYBREAKERS (R) (1:20, 1:50, 3:45, 4:25)6:45, 7:25, 9:15, 9:55
SHERLOCK HOLMES (PG–13) (1:15, 4:05)7:00, 9:20, 9:50
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG) (1:45, 2:15, 3:55, 4:40) 7:05, 7:40, 10:05
IT'S COMPLICATED (R) (1:40, 4:35)7:35, 10:20
AVATAR 3D (PG–13) (1:00, 4:30)8:00
AVATAR (PG–13) (2:00, 5:30)9:30
THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (G) (1:10, 3:40)6:55, 9:25
UP IN THE AIR (R) (1:35, 4:10)7:30, 10:00
THE BLIND SIDE (PG–13) (1:30)7:20, 10:15
2012 (PG–13) (3:30)6:50, 10:10
INVICTUS (PG–13) (4:20) P.M.
DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS? (PG–13) (1:05) P.M.

P and G Montgomery Mall Cinema

Bethesda

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG) 3:05, 5:05, 7:10, 9:10
IT'S COMPLICATED (R) 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 9:55
THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG (G) 3:10, 5:15, 7:30, 9:30

TV weekend lookout

Best Bets

FRI 9:00

Shark Tank (ABC) The reality series returns with a full slate of entrepreneurs pitching their ideas in hopes of obtaining funds. They include a husband and wife who are thrown for a loop when asked them to clarify the actual value of their child care business.

SUN 8:30

The Simpsons 20th Anniversary Special: In 3-D! On Ice! (FOX) Oscar-nominated filmmaker Morgan Spurlock hosts this documentary about the animated series' 20th anniversary, which includes a look at how the show has become a global phenomenon and caps a yearlong celebration of "The Simpsons."

SUN 9:00

Chuck (NBC) In the two-hour season premiere, Chuck takes his new Intersect abilities to school to train as a full-fledged spy, but he flunks out, losing Sarah. Then he tries to repair their relationship mid-mission, causing major complications. Adam Baldwin also stars in "Chuck Versus the Pink Slip/ Chuck Versus the Three Words." (TRIBUNE MEDIA)

COMEDY CENTRAL

The Briton Is Here

JOHN OLIVER'S NEW YORK STAND-UP SHOW

FRI. 11:00

(COMEDY CENTRAL) This regular faux correspondent on "The Daily Show" gets his own series. You-know Oliver as the slightly exasperated Brit working hard to school Americans. He will be joined by comedians including Janeane Garofalo and Eugene Mirman. KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

Premiere

A Real Gamble

A series about a polygamist family might have been a risk, but "Big Love" (9 p.m., HBO, Sun.) paid off. Let's hope the same holds for the Blackfoot Magic Casino, which Bill and his family are preparing to open as the show's fourth season begins. (TRIBUNE MEDIA)

express art

PERFORMANCES

Glorious Music in a Glorious Setting ™

CATHEDRAL CHORAL SOCIETY

Cathedral Sings!

Duruflé *Requiem*

Sing-along in the Great Choir of Washington National Cathedral

J. Reilly Lewis, conductor
Scott Dettra, organ
Brandy Hawkins, mezzo-soprano
Aleksey Bogdanov, baritone
Members of the WNO
Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program

Sun., January 10, 7:00 pm

Washington National Cathedral
Massachusetts & Wisconsin Aves., NW

Tickets: (202) 537-2228 or
www.cathedralchoralsociety.org

PERFORMANCES

The Studio Theatre
Tonight at 8pm!
IN THE RED AND BROWN WATER
by Tarell Alvin McCraney
directed by Serge Seiden

Pay What You Can Performance
Saturday, January 9 2pm

studiotheatre.org • 202-332-3300

THE Theatre Lab
SCHOOL OF THE DRAMATIC ARTS

Adult Sessions Begin January 12!
(Teens 15+ Welcome)
Acting, Voiceovers,
Musical Theatre, Playwriting
Stage, Screen, Television
Our Town Auditions January 4
www.theatrelab.org
The largest and most comprehensive theatre training center in DC!!

PERFORMANCES

St Mark's Players
THE LION IN WINTER
Jan 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 22, 23
Fri & Sat @ 8pm, Sun @ 4pm
www.stmarksplayers.org

IMAGINATION STAGE
FINAL WEEKEND!
DISNEY'S MULAN
"A colorful stage version"—*The Wash Post*
TONITE at 7:00, Sat & Sun shows
And especially for preschoolers…
WAKE UP, BROTHER BEAR!
Weekday & Sat shows in January
301-280-1660
www.ImaginationStage.org

Prince George's Little Theatre, Inc.
ELVIS
75th Birthday Tribute/Fundraiser
January 8,9, 2010 @ 8PM
January 10, 2010 @ 2PM
Bowie Playhouse, Bowie, MD All Tickets $20
Resv: (301) 937-PGLT (7458)
www.pglt.org

PERFORMANCES

The Kennedy Center
"…the very definition of a guilty pleasure" - *The Washington Post*
SHEAR MADNESS
Tue – Fri at 8, Sat at 6 & 9, Sun at 3 & 7
TKTS: 202-467-4600
www.kennedy-center.org/shearmadness

The Studio Theatre
Must Close Jan 17!
"Brilliant! Timely!
Right on the mark!" –*The Examiner*
Tonight at 8pm!
THE SOLID GOLD CADILLAC
by Howard Teichmann & George S. Kaufman
directed by Paul Mullins
starring Nancy Robinette
studiotheatre.org • 202-332-3300

PERFORMANCES

Washington Bach Consort
J. Reilly Lewis, *Music Director*
A CHRISTMAS MIRACLE…
AN INTERNATIONAL CHRISTMAS
Benjamin Britten's *Ceremony of Carols,* J.S. Bach & Christmas music from around the world
Pre-concert lecture at 2 pm
Free post-concert reception
Plenty of free parking
Rescheduled! Sun. Jan. 10 at 3 pm
National Presbyterian Church
4101 Nebraska Ave. NW
Tickets $23-$58 at at **(202) 429-2121**
www.BachConsort.org

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XX182 5x.5

lookout online

Poll Center

Today's Question

WOULD YOU PAY A HIGHER FARE TO ENSURE METRO WON'T CUT ITS SERVICE?

VOTE AT EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM OR TEXT A FOR YES OR B FOR NO TO 98999

Thursday's Results

WILL MIKE SHANAHAN TURN THE REDSKINS INTO A SUPER BOWL CONTENDER?

"Are you kidding me? Washington has had seven coaches in 10 years. The only way they will make it to the Super Bowl is if they buy tickets to the game as spectators."

COMMENTER OMAR CATOE

"In time I think he will. Call it optimism. The wildcard, of course, is [Daniel] Snyder. Will he allow [Mike Shanahan] to do his job? The past indicates he won't, but I am hoping for the best. "

COMMENTER GARRETT IRBY

SEE HOW YOUR METRO STATION VOTED AT WWW.EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM

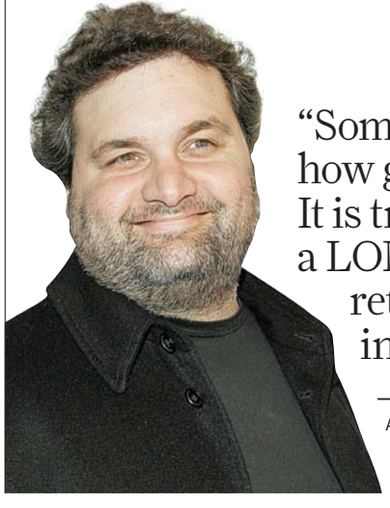
Blog Log

"What falls under the umbrella of suspicious activity? Lots of things, I'd guess. But sometimes there's stuff that falls under the old 'shades of grey' ... like a man stripping down to nude and jogging in front of the White House."

— GUYISM.COM REACTS TO THE STORY OF A MAN WHO WAS APPREHENDED WHILE JOGGING NAKED IN DOWNTOWN D.C. ON WEDNESDAY.

"We have come too far as a nation to have throw-backs to the days of 'seperate but equal' and the images of segregation popping up in our census form."

— DEKERIVERS.WORDPRESS.COM IS STUNNED THAT THE 2010 CENSUS FORM INCLUDES A QUESTION THAT ALLOWS BLACKS TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS "NEGROES."



"Some people just don't know how good they have it sometimes. It is truly sad but hopefully after a LONG stint in rehab he can return to the show and keep us in stitches."

— FATBACKMEDIA.COM ISN'T SURE WHY ARTIE LANGE — A COMEDIAN WITH A REGULAR GIG ON HOWARD STERN'S SATELLITE RADIO SHOW — WOULD TRY TO KILL HIMSELF.

"I'VE BEEN THE STORE EMPLOYEE instructed to discard of unsold and damaged goods. Fortunately, though, I've never stood in the back room of an H&M and destroyed perfectly good clothing."

— THEBURGHBABY.COM BELIEVES ALLEGATIONS THAT A NEW YORK H&M STORE ROUTINELY CUTS UP AND THROWS AWAY UNSOLD CLOTHING.

DC Public Charter School Recruitment Expo

Saturday, January 9, 2010 • 12 Noon – 4:00 pm

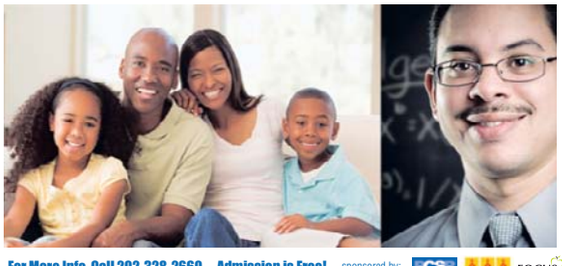
Washington Convention Center

(Mt. Vernon Square/Convention Center Metro)

Teachers and Parents Choose Your School

Learn About 99 Unique Public Charter School Options Children's Entertainment/Giveaways

www.dccharterexpo.org



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Mondays.

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ATRIAL FIBRILLATION INTERVIEW STUDY

We are presently recruiting participants for a research study related to Atrial Fibrillation (AF). The study will involve a 1hr interview during which you will be asked to complete two AF symptoms questionnaires on an electronic device and give us some feedback.

You are eligible if you:

- Have been diagnosed with AF
- Are at least 18 years of age

If interested, please call Alexis on:

(240) 482-0034 or email at

alexis.french@oxfordoutcomes.com

puzzles lookout

Horoscope

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You'll find that anything out of reach at this time is best left alone. Focus squarely on that which is attainable.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Tread lightly as you deal with someone who has recently received an emotional injury. You can help, but don't be hasty.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) There's no way for you to clarify what is confusing to those around you — unless you are willing to see things through their eyes.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Your instincts are telling you to do one thing, and your friends are telling you to do something else. You can accommodate both, in the end.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You'll be in a position to judge whether or not others are performing up to set standards. Don't be too harsh, however.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You can give valuable instruction to one who has an important lesson to learn. Try to avoid being too officious or pedantic, however.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Apologies are in order, and you may have to be the first to step forward and offer one to the group. This gets the ball rolling.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Your excitement grows as you become aware of your true potential. Results may be a long way off, but you can make a strong new start.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) What you have to offer is a rarity — and you know it. Don't, however, demand too much from others in return; be generous with your gifts.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You don't have to listen to those who do nothing but complain. Instead, get moving and do what you can to accomplish something valuable to all.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You're in no position to lord it over anyone else. Keep it real, and focus on things that really matter on a simple, basic level.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) An open exchange of ideas can be invaluable to you as you strive to accommodate all sides of a contentious issue.

PostPoints DAILY CODE R U

Scrabble Grams

PAR SCORE 145-155, BEST SCORE 206

A1	E1	I1	O1	N1	G2	B3	Double Word Score	RACK 1
E1	E1	I1	L1	L1	G2	B3		RACK 2
E1	E1	O1	R1	R1	C3	M3		RACK 3
E1	I1	U1	D2	B3	L1	R1	3rd Letter Triple	RACK 4

Yesterday's Solution

W4	A1	R1	M3	I1	S1	H4	RACK 1 =	65
R1	I1	B3	B3	O1	N1		RACK 2 =	10
M3	I1	D2	L1	I1	F4	E1	RACK 3 =	76
D2	E1	V4	E1	L1	O1	P3	RACK 4 =	65
PAR SCORE 150-160							TOTAL	216

FOUR RACK TOTAL

Make a 2-7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get a 50-point bonus. Blank tiles used as any letter have no point value. Scrabble is a trademark of Hasbro in the U.S. and Canada.

Sudoku

DIFFICULT

				9		7		5
					8	4		2
					2			1
9			5				1	8
		1				2		
4	3				1			9
5			8					
7		8	9					
1		4		3				

Yesterday's Solution

8	1	5	2	9	3	6	7	4
3	2	7	5	6	4	8	1	9
6	4	9	8	1	7	2	3	5
4	3	1	7	5	2	9	8	6
9	8	2	4	3	6	7	5	1
5	7	6	9	8	1	4	2	3
1	5	8	6	7	9	3	4	2
2	6	3	1	4	8	5	9	7
7	9	4	3	2	5	1	6	8

Need more Su|do|ku? Find another puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section Monday through Saturday.

© PUZZLES BY PAPPOCOM

Comics

FIND MORE COMICS AT EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM

POOCH CAFE | PAUL GILLIGAN

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE | STEPHAN PASTIS

Forecast

34 | 21

Today: Becoming windier today with snow showers. Windy tonight.

31 | 19

Tomorrow: Partly sunny, breezy and cold tomorrow. Mainly clear tomorrow night.

Looking Ahead

SUN	MON	TUE
32 | 22	41 | 26	41 | 28

Sun and Moon
Sunrise today: 7:27 a.m.
Sunset today: 5:03 p.m.
Moonrise today: 1:27 a.m.
Moonset today: 11:54 a.m.

Almanac
Normal high: 43
Record high: 76
Normal low: 28
Record low: 5

FORECAST BY ACCUWEATHER.COM ©2009

lookout puzzles

Crossword

AN IDEAL PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Apprehend
4 Poem comprised of quotations
9 San ___, Calif.
14 Afore's poetic cousin
15 The Who's "Tommy," for one
16 Cocktail garnish
17 Oxygen
18 Windshield flip-down
19 Stomach ailment
20 What some verbs have
23 "'Hast thou ___ the Jabberwock?'"
24 Prepare for a physical
28 Type of ray or globulin
32 Tin cup holder, perhaps
33 "Airplane Flying Handbook" org.
36 "... tree falls in the forest and ___ ..."
38 Jazz great Fitzgerald
39 Quality of having correct principles
43 Not exactly ruddy
44 Subject of the Middle Ages
45 ___ Dawn Chong of "Quest for Fire"
46 Blood supply
49 One of Adam's grandchildren
51 Troubador's verse form
53 Puzzle in pictures
57 What toll booths demand
61 Band of fighters
64 Beat
65 Tell a good one
66 How the ecstatic walk
67 Bane of grain
68 Something to build on
69 Arizona tribe members
70 Twilight times
71 Tennessee neighbors?

DOWN

1 Certain tides
2 Spirit of "The Tempest"
3 Yogi the quotable catcher
4 Sacred agreement
5 Of majestic proportions
6 Place for fresh eggs
7 Quick gait
8 Sculled
9 Puddinglike dessert
10 Bee venom is one
11 "___-Tac-Dough" (quiz show)
12 Three-faced woman of film
13 "___ the land of the free ..."
21 Sculptor's leaf, perhaps
22 Beak
25 "Hubba hubba" sayer
26 Wood for crafts and rafts
27 Answering machine button
29 "Can I?" addressee
30 Drudge
31 Daddy Warbucks' ward
33 Secures a sail by lashing
34 Wedding pathway
35 Eastern elite
37 "I Dream of Jeannie" star
40 Uncontrolled excitement
41 Inflated self-image
42 Converts code into ordinary language
47 Campus social events
48 Santa ___, Calif.
50 Skirt's outskirts?
52 Didn't just sit there
54 "Beauty and the Beast" girl
55 Collective bargaining group
56 "Keep it in" notations
58 "No ___ Traffic"
59 Dogs with square muzzles
60 A bad way to run
61 One with cuffs
62 "32 Flavors" singer DiFranco
63 A river runs to it?

Yesterday's Solution

D	R	A	Y		M	A	R	T		G	I	N	A	S
R	O	B	E		E	R	O	O		R	E	E	D	Y
A	M	E	N		L	I	O	N		I	R	W	I	N
F	E	A	T	U	R	E	F	I	L	M		S	A	C
T	O	M	A	T	O			C	A	L	I	F		
			S	U	S	A	N		C	Y	C	L	E	S
T	E	A		R	E	P	O	S	E		E	A	R	L
O	R	I	O	N		E	N	C		I	S	S	E	I
F	I	R	M		B	R	O	O	M	S		H	I	P
U	N	F	A	I	R		S	T	I	N	G			
		I	N	D	I	E			S	O	I	R	E	E
A	L	L		C	O	N	T	A	C	T	L	E	N	S
W	I	T	H	A		T	O	G	A		D	A	T	S
E	M	E	E	R		E	L	U	L		A	C	R	E
D	A	R	E	D		R	E	E	L		S	T	Y	X

EDITED BY TIMOTHY E. PARKER

Samurai Sudoku

DIFFICULT

Fill in each column, row and 3x3 box with the digits 1 through 9 without repeating any. The twist in Samurai Sudoku is that the digits that appear in the overlapping boxes must work for both puzzles. A piece of advice to get you started: Don't focus on completing one grid at a time. Keep the whole puzzle in mind as you go, because filling in a number in one grid could give you clues to another.

		1		2	9			
		9	5					
5	2			4		7		
	6		9			3		
4		2		3	1			5
9				5	2	1		6
		3	1		4			
							3	
				8	3			

			5	1		7		
					9	4		
		6		4			2	1
		2			8		4	
6			9	2		1		8
9		1	4	7				3
4		2	7		4	8		
	7			4				
	6		8	3				

				1				
					9	8		
				3				

			5					
4	1							
		2						

				7	9			
							4	
		8	4		6			
5				1	3	8		9
1		3		9	2			7
	8		5			3		
3	2			8		1		
		9	3					
		5		2	1			

		5						
							9	
8		6						
6		8	4	9				5
2			1	5		9		8
		9			8		1	
		5		7			8	3
					1	5		
			6	8		7		

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Last Week's Solution

1	8	5	2	4	6	3	9	7
9	2	4	1	3	7	5	8	6
6	3	7	8	5	9	4	1	2
4	9	2	5	7	3	1	6	8
3	7	1	9	6	8	2	4	5
8	5	6	4	2	1	9	7	3
7	1	9	3	8	5	6	2	4
2	6	3	7	9	4	8	5	1
5	4	8	6	1	2	7	3	9

4	9	2	7	5	6	3	8	1
5	8	1	3	9	4	6	7	2
6	7	3	8	2	1	4	9	5
1	3	4	9	8	5	2	6	7
7	2	6	1	4	3	8	5	9
9	5	8	2	6	7	1	3	4
8	1	9	5	3	2	7	4	6
3	6	7	4	1	9	5	2	8
2	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	3

7	3	5	3	7	9	5	4	6
4	2	9	5	9	6	3	2	8
6	9	2	2	4	8	1	7	6

3	1	7	9	5	4	6	2	8
5	9	6	3	2	8	1	7	4
2	4	8	1	7	6	9	5	3

4	1	5	2	7	8	9	6	3
8	6	3	9	5	4	1	7	2
2	7	9	3	1	6	4	8	5
3	2	8	7	4	5	6	1	9
9	4	6	8	2	1	5	3	7
7	5	1	6	9	3	2	4	8
1	3	2	5	6	7	8	9	4
5	8	4	1	3	9	7	2	6
6	9	7	4	8	2	3	5	1

4	8	2	3	5	6	7	9	1
5	9	6	7	1	8	3	2	4
7	3	1	9	2	4	8	6	5
2	1	4	6	3	9	5	8	7
9	6	7	8	4	5	1	3	2
3	5	8	1	7	2	6	4	9
1	4	5	2	6	3	9	7	8
6	7	9	4	8	1	2	5	3
8	2	3	5	9	7	4	1	6

Today in History

1815 The Battle of New Orleans takes place with Andrew Jackson defeating the British army in the closing engagement of the War of 1812.

1992 President George H. W. Bush collapses to the floor at a state dinner in Tokyo. The White House says he is suffering from stomach flu.

1998 Ramzi Yousef, an Arab of uncertain nationality, is sentenced to life in prison plus 240 years for masterminding the World Trade Center Bombing in New York that killed six people in 1993.

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FAULT

Can We Blame This Guy for 'Glitter,' Too?

Mariah Carey blamed her loony acceptance speech at the Palm Springs International Film Festival awards on "Precious" director Lee Daniels. "He was presenting my award, so he starts off immediately with inside jokes," Carey said. "We had splashes of champagne, and I love Lee but he's a bad influence," she said. (AP)

ENGAGEMENTS

Beautiful Girl to Marry Giant Dollop of Makeup

Marilyn Manson and Evan Rachel Wood are engaged, according to People.com. Reports say he proposed onstage in Paris on Monday, but neither Manson's nor Woods' reps have commented. The two have had an on-again, off-again relationship since they got together in 2006. They broke up in 2008, reconciled, then split up again before reuniting in late 2009. (EXPRESS)

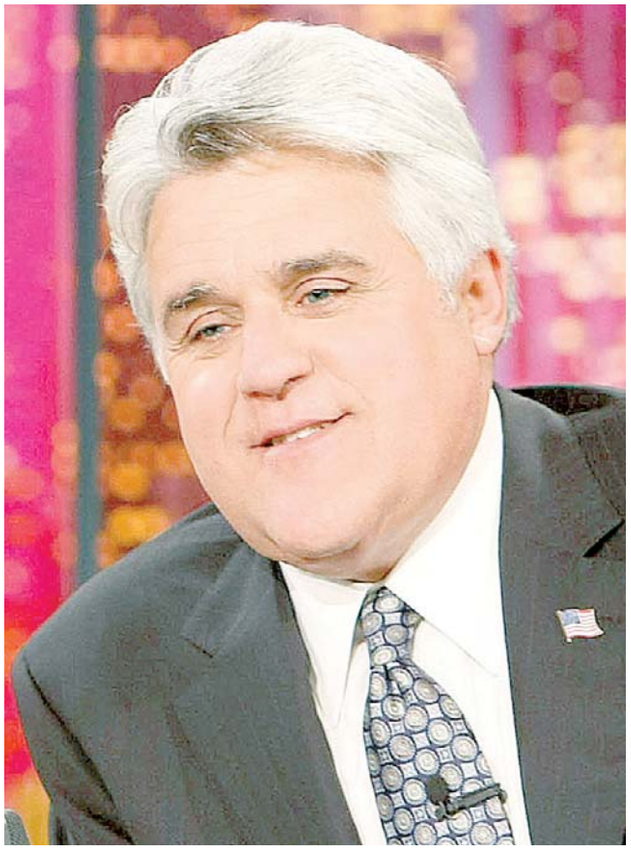
SCOTT WINTROW/GETTY IMAGES

The fact that Evan Rachel Wood looks 12 doesn't make this any less disturbing.

Dirtbag Digest

For Once, He Can't Phone It In

A Colorado judge has ruled that actor Charlie Sheen must appear in person at a hearing in Aspen on allegations he threatened his wife with a knife. The judge denied a request by the actor's lawyers that he should be allowed to participate by phone on Feb. 8. Attorneys for both husband and wife say they want to try to reconcile. (AP)



GERALD HERBERT/AP

HOO-HA

Giving Up the Host?

Conflicting reports about Jay Leno's fate at NBC flew Thursday, with some outlets reporting that his show had been canceled and others reporting that it had been moved to Conan O'Brien's timeslot, leaving O'Brien's fate unclear. As of press-time, NBC had met with both hosts and said a decision would not be announced Thursday. The network said it was commmitted to working with Leno, however. (EXPRESS)

SPOILED

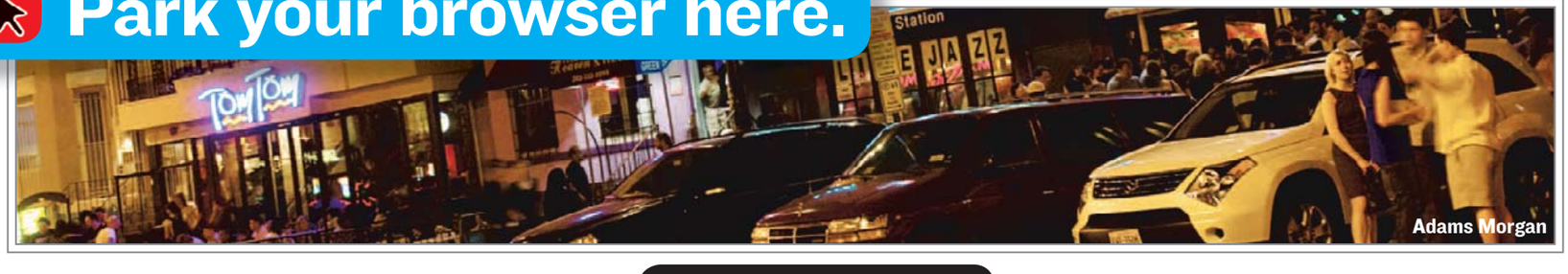
'But There's No Tanning Bed in Jail, Your Honor!'

Stephanie Pratt is not going to jail for driving under the influence, E! Online reported. The "Hills" star was arrested on Oct. 18 in Hollywood. She pleaded no contest to a reduced charge of exhibition of speeding. She will attend a three-month alcohol-treatment program, go to AA meetings and be on probation for 36 months. (EXPRESS)

"Casey Picked ME Over Her Family & Thats Why They R All Badmouthing Me in Press Cuz She Loved Me More!"

—TILA TEQUILA (AGAIN), THIS TIME TWITTER-RANTING ABOUT ALLEGATIONS THAT SHE IGNORED WARNING SIGNS THAT SIGNALED CASEY JOHNSON'S COMING DEATH.

Park your browser here.



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Look for site highlights in today's Express.

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THE
KNOW YOUR OWN STRENGTH
CHALLENGE

Who will the 6 CHALLENGERS be for the Know Your Own Strength Challenge?

Find Out January 12th.

Follow the challengers' progress beginning January 12th in the Fit section of Tuesday's Express.

You can also enter for a chance to win a 1 year membership to Gold's Gym!

You don't have to be one of the six challengers to win a 1 year membership to Gold's Gym.

To enter for a chance to win go to www.expressnightout.com/kyos.

The winner will be drawn January 11th.

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